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# FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES

# Digest

JANUARY 1956

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

## EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

July-December exports ahead this year despite cotton slump. July-December exports are estimated at more than \$1,600 million this year compared with \$1,582 million last year. Significant increases took place in all major commodity classes but one--cotton. Gains in other classes more than offset a slump of over \$200 million in cotton. July-December total exclusive of cotton this year was 20 percent ahead of a year ago. Commodity highlights are as follows:

- ...Grain exports totaled over half a billion dollars. Total for topmost export group--grains and feeds--is estimated at \$515 million in July-December this year as against \$398 million a year earlier, a gain of 29 percent. Every major item was up in value but wheat grain, and that was 12 percent behind. Percentage increases: Wheat flour, 19 percent; oats, 800 percent; barley, 122 percent; corn, 66 percent; grain sorghums, 182 percent; rye, 173 percent; and rice, 39 percent.
- ...Livestock products were second largest export group. July-December value is estimated at \$255 million this year compared with \$223 million last year, a gain of 15 percent. Value increases occurred in tallow and dairy products; lard exports were up quantitywise but stayed about the same valuewise due to lower prices.
- ...Tobacco exports were a close third. With a total estimated at \$250 million, July-December tobacco exports this year were 21 percent ahead compared with \$205 million last year.
- ...Vegetable oils and oilseeds totaled about \$190 million. Shipments in July-December totaled more than \$190 million this year, 8 percent above the like period last year. Soybeans were up one-third, soybean oil more. Cottonseed value was larger due to higher prices; quantity was smaller. Principal item down from a year ago was flaxseed.
- ...Other groups did well too. Fruits and vegetables, estimated at \$145 million, were 7 percent ahead. Private shipments of food for relief or charity, estimated at \$70 million--largely dairy products and cottonseed oil--were up by 80 percent.



Active foreign purchasing and U. S. export programs sustained exports.

Two main factors benefited exports during the 6 months just ended: High level of foreign purchasing power and increased tempo of U. S. Government export programs. Half of July-December exports--probably as much as \$800 million--is estimated to have been under Government programs. Nearly \$500 million of this figure stemmed from P.L. 480 programs (USDA sales for foreign currencies, emergency relief, barter, and donations to private welfare agencies for overseas distribution). The remainder--\$300 million--consisted of grants, loans, and other sales for foreign currencies.

December shipments totaled \$295 million. December exports are estimated at \$295 million, close to November's \$294 million, and 14 percent under the \$339 million in December 1954. Chief differences between December this year and last: Less cotton and wheat. More grain sorghums, rice, and tallow. (Calendar year 1955 exports are estimated close to \$3,180 million as compared with \$3,046 million in 1954.)

COTTON

P.L. 480 accounted for 45 percent of low July-December cotton exports.

Based on trade sources, December 1955 cotton exports are estimated at 195 thousand bales (500 lbs. gross weight), 62 percent less than the 515 thousand in December 1954. July-December total is estimated at 790 thousand bales this year, 59 percent less than the 1,929 thousand last year. Over 350 thousand bales are reported to have been approved for export under P.L. 480 programs in the past 6 months as compared with 66 thousand in all of fiscal year 1954-55. The bulk of P.L. 480 exports was sold for foreign currencies. This year's decline in U. S. cotton exports is attributed mainly to three conditions: (1) Foreign buyers expected lower export prices for U. S. cotton. (2) Foreign exporting countries made large quantities of cotton available at prices as much as 8 cents a pound under those for comparable U. S. quality. (3) Mill consumption in cotton-importing countries has declined recently, partly because of the anticipated reduction in cotton prices. As of January 17, exporters have taken about 340 thousand bales of 15/16 inch and shorter cotton offered on a competitive bid basis by CCC starting January 3; price discounts ranged from 5.5 to 8.4 cents below domestic market.

TOBACCO

Dollar sales accounted for about 90 percent of half-year tobacco exports.

With 40 million pounds of tobacco estimated to have moved abroad in December 1955, July-December total exceeded 365 million pounds this year compared with 300 million last year. P.L. 480 sales for foreign currencies have been less important for tobacco than for other major exports; July-December shipments reported against these sales totaled 41 million pounds. Dollar sales accounted for the remainder, about 90 percent of the total; high level of these sales reflected growing purchasing power and cigarette usage and some stock building abroad.

GRAINS

This year's earlier gains in wheat exports now wiped out. December 1955 wheat and wheat flour exports are estimated at 19 mil- (con. on page 5)



# TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

January 30, 1956

Agricultural producers around the world are still producing more than can be marketed, according to FAS' "World Agricultural Situation, 1956," just off the press. Combined index of crops and livestock in 1955-56 is estimated at an alltime high of 119 compared with 117 last year and 100 in 1935-39. Since prewar, production has risen faster than population (especially in the free world; Communist production has increased little).

A high level of world purchasing power is enabling consumers to use more agricultural commodities than ever before. But, with foreign production up in important items such as cotton, rice, and wheat, consumers abroad are becoming less dependent on the United States. Consequently, U. S. agriculture will continue to experience intense competition in exports.

World production by commodity this year compared with last:

...Up for grains, cotton, tobacco, fats and oils, sugar, livestock, meat, eggs, fleece, wool, and coffee.

...Down for potatoes, pulses, deciduous fruit, milk, butter, cheese, and cacao.

\* \* \*

Bogotá (Colombia) Fair item: U. S. milk-recombining equipment, demonstrated last month, has been sold. It's the first unit in that country.

\* \* \*

With signing of P.L. 480 Title I agreement with West Germany, U. S. poultry industry now has an opportunity to introduce its products to that important poultry market--the world's largest. \$1.2 million of frozen chickens and turkeys are involved. It's the first P.L. 480 poultry sale.

Germany imports about 30 million pounds of dressed poultry annually--none from the United States despite high U. S. quality. Germans usually buy a special pack called "French-dressed;" U. S. packers do not produce it.

The Institute of American Poultry Industries now has a Committee on International Trade Development. It will conduct market research and undertake educational and promotional programs abroad.

\* \* \*

Certain U. S. hog products have a strong price advantage in the highly competitive foreign market but are not selling well because of two diseases: Vesicular exanthema and hog cholera. Because of disease, at least 13 countries ban U. S. hog products from their markets.

Domestic market will be helped by 88-million-pound lard sale to Yugoslavia under P.L. 480 Title I agreement announced January 17. Followup on Title I agreement with Brazil: 4.4 million pounds of lard have been sold. These are first lard sales under P.L. 480.

\* \* \*

Importance of competitive pricing is reflected in India's action in cutting back ICA purchase authorizations for cotton from \$15.7 million to \$1.7 million. Reason given is that U. S. prices are too high.

On January 3, CCC started its program of selling up to 1 million bales of Upland cotton 15/16 inch or shorter staple for export at competitive bid. First 3 weeks' results: 326 thousand bales sold. Prices were 5.5 to 8 cents below domestic levels for base quality middling 15/16 inch.

\* \* \*

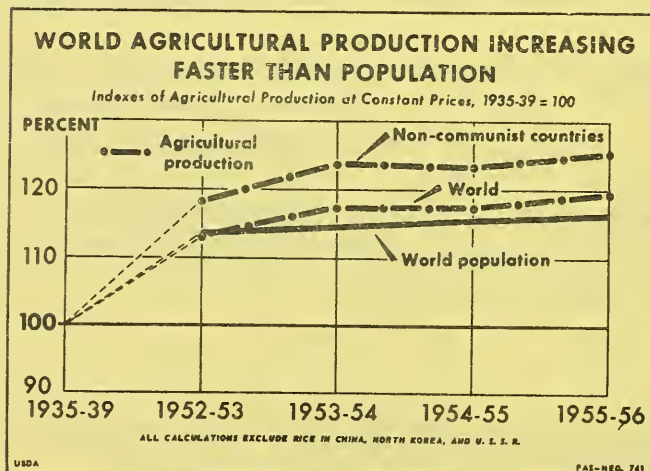
A CCC competitive bid offering of an additional 10 million pounds of butter for export was made on January 3. On that date total quantity available for sale (domestic and export) was 51 million pounds.

First CCC competitive bid export sale of butter for industrial use under program announced last August: 138 thousand pounds for pastry products in Portugal; price is 23 cents a pound f.a.s. New York.

Another major CCC step in selling at competitive prices was resumption of cheese sales for export on January 11. Offering was limited to 15 million pounds. Under November 15 competitive bid offer of like amount, CCC sold 2.2 million pounds by December, more than double fixed price sales in previous year and a half.

January 3 marked CCC's formal dropping of cottonseed oil (except odd lots and tank bottoms) from its monthly sales list. Two years ago CCC held peak quantity of 1.2 billion pounds. Now there is practically none left. CCC has disposed of 70 percent of its holdings through exports.

\* \* \*



France's first liberalization of dollar imports--made effective on January 1--concerns only 11 percent of its imports from the United States and Canada. It is of little help to U. S. agriculture: only agricultural items listed are hides, skins, and cotton linters.

First shipments under USDA's expanded program of donations to private U. S. welfare agencies for overseas distribution as announced on December 14: 21,000 long tons of wheat for Italy.



lion bushels (based on USDA inspections), about the same as in November 1955 and 6 million less than in December 1954. An export lull developed toward the close of calendar year 1955, wiping out earlier gains and resulting in a slight setback. July-December total is estimated at 118 million bushels this year, roughly 3 million less than a year earlier. Of this total, 69 million bushels, or 58 percent, are reported to have been shipped under P.L. 480 programs: 36 million under Title I (foreign currency sales), 4 million under Title II (emergency relief), and 28 million under Title III (barter). For the fiscal year as a whole, wheat exports are expected to do as well as last fiscal year's 274 million bushels. Main hindrance to further gains this fiscal year is the high level of foreign supplies.

P.L. 480 barter program boosted feed grain shipments. This year's good showing for grain exports as a whole is due in large part to feed grains. July-December 1955 total (including principal products) was 4.5 million short tons, or approximately as much as in all of the 1954-55 season. Strong foreign demand reflects heavy feeding requirements and reduced supplies of feed wheat in Europe this year as compared with last. P.L. 480 programs (mostly barter operations) were responsible for moving the bulk of the feed grains to foreign markets. Estimated July-December 1955 exports of principal items:

	<u>July-December 1955 exports</u> <u>Mil. bu.</u>	<u>Gain over a year ago</u> <u>Percent</u>	<u>Est. proportion of exports under P.L. 480</u> <u>Percent</u>
Corn	63	88	80
Barley	48	166	65
Grain sorghums	39	194	75

Yen sales to Japan raised this year's rice exports. With recent improvement in rice exports to Japan due to sales for yen under P.L. 480, July-December total of milled rice is estimated at more than 675 million pounds this year, 64 percent greater than the 411 million pounds exported a year earlier. This year's total includes 270 million pounds under P.L. 480 programs, about 230 million in yen sales.

#### VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS

Soybean exports 50 percent ahead of last year. Soybean exports this past July-November totaled 34 million bushels, 13 million larger than a year earlier. December total (based on USDA inspections) is estimated at 12 million bushels, 3 million larger than a year earlier. July-December total is estimated at 45 million bushels this year as compared with 30 million a year earlier. Larger foreign needs as well as good quality and competitive price of U. S. beans are important stimulating factors. Japan is the best customer for U. S. soybeans which are used mainly for edible products such as soy paste, soy sauce, and soy curd.

Soybean oil exports now four times a year ago. A striking improvement in soybean oil exports in November 1955 (last month for which data are available) boosted the total since July to 57 million pounds this year in contrast with 13 million last year. With other oils--both here and abroad--less plentiful this year than last, customers abroad are turning more toward U. S. soybean oil.



P.L. 480 accounted for half of cottonseed oil shipments. July-December exports are estimated at 250 million pounds this year as compared with 311 million last year. Half of this year's total--126 million pounds--is reported to have been shipped under P.L. 480 programs, mainly sales for foreign currencies. The strong foreign demand for fats and oils, which contributed much to the success of CCC's foreign disposal operations in the past 2 years, continues this year. Although CCC stocks are practically all sold or committed, large commercial holdings assure a high level of sales of cottonseed and other oils during the remainder of 1955-56.

#### ANIMAL FATS

Lard export rate ahead of last year. Including an estimated 80 million pounds in December, July-December lard exports totaled 300 million pounds this year compared with 243 million last year. Current rate means a 600-million-pound total for 1955-56 as compared with last year's total of 516 million. Heavy U. S. hog slaughter has resulted in lower lard prices while foreign demand is strong.

Tallow exports at half-year mark 11 percent ahead. Tallow exports through November totaled 498 million pounds this fiscal year as compared with 458 million a year earlier. Counting 100 million pounds expected for December, July-December total approximated 600 million this year, 11 percent more than in the like period last year. With domestic use fairly steady, increased cattle slaughter has made more tallow available for export at prices attractive to foreign buyers.

#### I M P O R T     H I G H L I G H T S

October agricultural imports hit high level. Agricultural imports in October 1955, latest month for which full returns are available from the Bureau of the Census, totaled \$352 million, \$100 million greater than in the like month a year ago and fourth highest October figure on record. Peak value for the month was \$407 million in 1950. Largest value gain in October this year over last year was in coffee. Sizable increases occurred in imports of cane sugar, wool, barley and crude rubber. Principal declines showed up in vegetable oils and waxes. Compared with September's value of \$305 million, October imports were ahead by nearly \$50 million.

Total gain larger thus far this year than a year ago. July-October imports, amounting to \$1,271 million this year, compared with \$1,115 million a year ago. Chief item to gain this year over last was coffee: \$107 million for the 4-month period. Rubber, valued at \$144 million, was up \$52 million. There were moderate increases for cane sugar (\$16 million), carpet wool (\$14 million), and nuts and preparations (\$8 million). Biggest reduction from a year ago, \$24 million, was in the value of cacao bean imports, due entirely to lower prices. Other declines: Vegetable oils and waxes, \$5 million; barley grain, \$7 million.

Nonagricultural imports moving at record rate. Nonagricultural imports in the July-October period aggregated \$2,531 million this year, about \$460 million more than last year and a record level for this period. Most of these imports consisted of industrial raw materials; the high level of domestic industrial activity is clearly reflected in the recent demand for these materials.



DOMESTIC EXPORTS November 1954 and 1955 and July-November 1954 and 1955

Commodity exported	Unit	November				July-November			
		Quantity		Value		Quantity		Value	
		1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955
Cheese .....	Lb.	Thousands : 512	Thousands : 1,589	dollars : 1,000	dollars : 296	Thousands : 2,098	Thousands : 12,385	dollars : 1,000	dollars : 1,000
Milk, evaporated .....	Lb.	8,307	17,445	208	2,592	54,365	62,367	852	4,658
Milk, whole, dried .....	Lb.	2,243	3,244	1,227	1,693	17,252	18,591	8,047	9,305
Nonfat dry milk solids .....	Lb.	6,054	26,148	1,166	2,435	34,716	96,156	8,700	9,291
Eggs, in the shell .....	Doz.	6,281	6,090	734	2,213	29,362	27,706	4,421	10,051
Beef and veal, total <sup>a/</sup> .....	Lb.	3,280	2,349	1,952	645	12,552	13,448	9,259	10,313
Pork, total <sup>a/</sup> .....	Lb.	6,692	5,823	957	1,815	13,607	24,599	3,393	3,450
Lard .....	Lb.	55,013	66,532	1,838	8,719	185,234	219,060	7,008	6,807
Tallow, edible and inedible .....	Lb.	88,520	94,768	9,090	7,930	458,296	497,510	32,861	28,609
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintners (480 lb.)	Bale	404	145	6,950	25,896	1,414	594	34,925	40,329
Apples, fresh .....	Lb.	8,469	9,484	735	826	28,407	29,167	256,551	105,506
Oranges and tangerines .....	Lb.	59,300	37,809	2,760	1,945	192,485	240,115	2,424	2,648
Prunes, dried .....	Lb.	12,586	8,636	2,222	1,589	29,916	31,707	11,882	12,615
Raisins and currants .....	Lb.	8,871	13,180	976	1,537	46,149	68,119	5,167	5,772
Fruits, canned .....	Lb.	18,901	24,623	2,919	3,686	102,182	118,374	4,679	7,115
Fruit juices .....	Gal.	1,856	1,656	1,381	1,418	8,727	8,957	15,460	18,488
Barley, grain (48 lb.) .....	Bu.	2,839	4,731	3,714	4,765	13,837	42,171	7,188	8,808
Corn, grain (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	3,771	10,813	6,443	14,932	24,281	52,944	17,369	44,828
Grain sorghums (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	247	6,875	290	6,931	13,211	32,866	40,902	78,780
Rice, milled, excludes paddy .....	Lb.	55,938	109,537	4,616	6,631	372,922	586,566	14,060	33,559
Wheat, grain (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	17,527	14,534	33,443	22,991	79,382	80,067	30,274	39,311
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag	1,696	2,049	7,364	8,987	7,088	8,322	137,117	133,556
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.)	Bu.	12,465	12,815	35,193	30,868	21,261	33,553	31,056	36,413
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	4,276	27,263	557	4,081	13,223	57,402	61,883	82,918
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	122,739	37,638	13,295	5,182	243,660	210,318	1,989	8,709
Tobacco, flue-cured .....	Lb.	51,749	53,024	36,002	35,703	225,376	291,924	28,350	32,120
Tobacco, leaf, other .....	Lb.	7,175	9,966	4,604	6,259	33,283	34,634	159,549	199,274
Beans, dried .....	Lb.	32,991	13,810	2,642	996	95,048	76,839	19,565	22,419
Peas, dried (ex. cowpeas and chickpeas)	Lb.	32,480	5,153	2,174	455	70,322	17,683	7,419	6,016
Potatoes, white .....	Lb.	37,311	18,227	693	392	206,433	177,152	4,589	1,548
Vegetables, canned .....	Lb.	12,532	12,309	1,719	1,688	51,976	55,802	4,588	3,898
Food exported for relief, etc.				12,604	14,067			7,479	7,995
Other agricultural commodities				59,163	64,060			18,665	46,827
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL .....				333,287	294,223			245,410	257,710
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES .....				1,233,830	1,298,816			1,243,081	1,319,646

<sup>a/</sup> Product weight.

Compiled from tables appearing in the "Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report".

# IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): October 1954 and 1955 and July-October 1954 and 1955

Commodity imported	Unit	October		July-October	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		1954	1955	1954	1955
Cattle, dutiable .....	No.	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	dollars
Cheese .....	Lb.	2	9	12	2,026
Hides and skins .....	Lb.	4,558	5,508	15,026	7,838
Beef and veal, total a/ .....	Lb.	8,359	11,400	37,812	16,348
Pork, total a/ .....	Lb.	8,004	9,428	36,912	11,199
Wool, unmd., excl. free, etc. ....	Lb.	12,730	11,583	53,700	36,176
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintners (480 lb.)	Bale	12,133	12,161	51,509	44,878
Jute and jute butts, unmd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	7	11	32	6,615
Olives in brine .....	Gal.	3	1	15	2,872
Pineapples, canned, prep. or preserved	Lb.	659	877	3,616	6,200
Pineapple juice .....	Gal.	3,928	4,496	28,405	3,331
Barley, grain (48 lb.) .....	Bu.	714	143	2,571	1,078
Oats, grain (32 lb.) .....	Bu.	2,767	4,206	10,589	14,084
Wheat, grain (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	1,656	145	5,547	4,343
Feeds and fodders .....	Bu.	362	541	1,085	2,229
Nuts and preparations .....	Lb.	b/	b/	b/	6,406
Copra .....	Lb.	59,067	84,671	238,428	18,093
Oils, fats, waxes, veg. expressed	Lb.	54,611	24,686	172,513	16,566
Seeds, field and garden .....	Ton	b/	b/	b/	25,443
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.) .....	Gal.	158	276	1,166	5,431
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Lb.	17,051	27,311	89,948	128,447
Tobacco, cigarette leaf .....	Lb.	6,744	7,573	27,919	8,878
Tobacco, other leaf .....	Lb.	1,227	1,139	5,505	19,009
Tomatoes, natural state .....	Lb.	33	410	4,385	8,328
Silk, raw .....	Lb.	683	750	2,516	286
Wool, unmd., free in bond .....	Lb.	12,468	17,589	52,644	10,692
Bananas .....	Bunch	3,750	3,787	15,138	29,238
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico) .....	Lb.	114,917	292,368	447,335	20,237
Cocoa or cacao beans .....	Lb.	26,512	33,014	126,043	332,951
Tea .....	Lb.	6,599	8,047	25,265	69,538
Spices (complementary) .....	Lb.	8,373	3,880	28,629	13,300
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	14	12	45	13,199
Rubber, crude .....	Lb.	110,728	102,413	443,015	8,333
Other agricultural commodities .....					91,760
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES					129,686
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES					1,115,041
					3,185,277

a/ Product weight.

b/ Reported in value only.

Compiled from tables appearing in the "Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report".

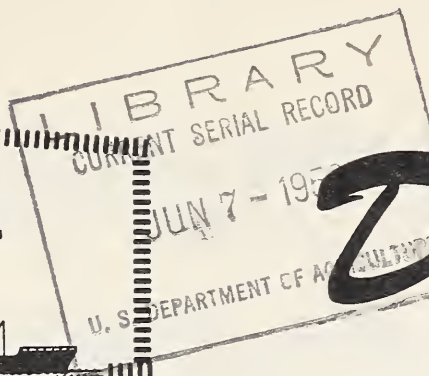


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# Digest

FEBRUARY 1956

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## EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Fiscal year exports were 5 percent ahead through January. July-January agricultural exports this fiscal year are estimated at \$1,945 million, 5 percent above the same period of the previous year, when the total was \$1,856 million. Cotton exports were valued 59 percent less than a year earlier, but total for all other agricultural exports was 23 percent ahead.

- ...Cotton poses the biggest problem. July-January export value of \$170 million this year compared with \$413 million last year. Foreign production has more than doubled in the past 10 years. Both it and synthetic fibers are underselling U. S. cotton in foreign markets.
- ...July-January value for grains and feeds estimated at \$620 million this year was 30 percent larger than the \$476 million last year. Wheat exports are at a high level when compared with the traditional U. S. position. Coarse grains are moving out in larger volume; total this year is expected to amount to 8 million short tons, about half of the world's exports. Corn leads, followed by barley, grain sorghums, and oats.
- ...Demand for livestock products is increasing as living standards overseas improve. U. S. exports are favored by plentiful supplies, generally competitive prices, and high quality. July-January export estimate is \$310 million this year, 17 percent more than the \$263 million last year. Dairy products, animal fats, eggs, and hides and skins were up.
- ...July-January tobacco exports totaled over \$280 million this year, 25 percent in excess of the \$226 million last year. This fiscal year's total is expected to be the largest in 9 years. Expansion is occurring despite heavy increases in competitive overseas production. Rising prosperity has brought about a steady upturn in cigarette consumption abroad.
- ...Exports of vegetable oils and oilseeds are growing: \$233 million in July-January this year as compared with \$207 million last year, a gain of 13 percent. Free World shortages in sunflower and olive oils accentuate demand for U. S. products. Other factors are big domestic supplies, competitive pricing, and Government programs. Chief item in this group is soybeans; the United States is now supplying over two-thirds of the world soybean trade.



...July-January fruit and vegetable exports are estimated at \$170 million this year as compared with \$156 million last year, a gain of 10 percent. Increases were in fruits, the biggest in canned fruits, fruit juices and raisins; exports of peas and beans were substantially reduced.

Exports remained high in January. This January's exports are estimated at \$310 million, about the same as this December's and 13 percent more than last January's when exports totaled \$274 million. Notable value differences between January exports this year and last were the 50 percent smaller cotton shipments and the more than offsetting increases in grains, tobacco, vegetable oils and oilseeds, fruits and vegetables, and livestock products. Largest individual gains were in wheat and grain sorghums.

Big improvement occurred despite obstacles. Recent gains in agricultural exports can be credited to: (1) Rising prosperity around the world with resulting increases in effective demand; (2) U. S. Government export programs, such as sales for foreign currency, barter, loans, donations, and CCC sales for export. Current improvement has occurred despite an alltime high in foreign Free World production, frequent underselling of U. S. products in world markets, quality considerations not always in favor of U. S. producers, foreign restrictions on imports of U. S. products, and foreign bilateral agreements with competing foreign exporters.

#### COTTON

Higher second-half export rate seen for cotton. July-January cotton exports (excluding linters) are estimated at 950 thousand bales (480 lbs. net weight) this year, 58 percent under a year ago. Main reason for decline is that competing exporters have undersold U. S. cotton. Some buyers, anticipating lower U. S. prices, cut purchases to the bare minimum. Improvement is in sight during the second half of the fiscal year, due mainly to depletion of stocks available for export from several foreign countries and to reduced U. S. prices under the special sales program. On January 3, CCC began to offer up to 1 million bales of 15 16 inch and shorter cotton on a competitive bid basis. By February 21, sales to exporters totaled about 890 thousand running bales, with price discounts between 5.75 and 9.99 cents a pound below domestic market.

#### TOBACCO

Rising prosperity abroad aids tobacco sales. Tobacco exports in July-January are estimated at 415 million pounds this year, 26 percent greater than last. This January's estimate is 10 million more than a year ago when exports totaled 31 million pounds. While rising prosperity and resulting increased consumption underlie the strong demand abroad, stockbuilding has also made a sizable contribution. Sales for dollars and for foreign currency have been equally important in the export rise.

#### GRAINS

Wheat exports are holding up well. With a slight improvement this January (based on USDA inspections), July-January wheat and wheat flour exports are estimated to be the same as last year's 147 million bushels. Recent slackening in foreign demand reflected increased quantity and improved quality of

# TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

February 27, 1956

This is how the new market development program using foreign currencies from P.L. 480 sales works:

- ...First stage is the program agreement for specified commodities. Such agreements are made between USDA and U. S. or foreign trade groups. The program is a general understanding on what will be done, where and how it will be done, and what the parties will contribute. Agreements contemplating activities in 17 countries are in effect with the National Cotton Council, Oregon Wheat Growers League, American Soybean Association, Dairy Industries Society International, a combination of three tobacco associations (Leaf Tobacco Export Association, Tobacco Associates, and Burley and Dark Leaf Tobacco Exporters' Association), and Millers' National Federation.
- ...Second stage is a specific project agreement. It sets forth precisely what is to be done, how much foreign currency will be used, and what each party will contribute. P.L. 480 permits a wide variety of projects. Cotton projects are underway in France and Japan; one for tobacco in Thailand. Agricultural exhibits in international trade fairs include those in Cologne (West Germany), Bogotá (Colombia), and Ciudad Trujillo (Dominican Republic).

\* \* \*

On February 7, CCC announced a new export promotion plan: sales to exporters on credit. CCC-owned surplus commodities and tobacco pledged to it are eligible. Principal and interest are to be assured through commercial banks.

\* \* \*

New markets and a greater variety of commodities are emphasized in P.L. 480 Title I (sales for foreign currency) announcements this month:

- ...\$10 million agreement with Israel represents first beef under P.L. 480. Israel is also taking another \$900 thousand of butter, for a total of \$1,800 thousand.
- ...\$21.7 million agreement with Burma opens a new market for tobacco (\$1.1 million), fruit (\$200 thousand), and dairy products (\$2 million). Major commodity is cotton.
- ...\$22.3 million agreement with Austria includes \$2.4 million of lard and \$300 thousand of fruit. (Now, 115 million pounds of lard are included in all P.L. 480 programs). Agreement is first for fruit: dried and canned items. Other commodities are wheat, corn, cotton, and tobacco.
- ...\$12.1 million agreement with Iran will add needed food fats to Iranian diets: butter oil, butter, and vegetable oils. Wheat is also included.

\* \* \*



Some highlights of FAS Administrator Gwynn Garnett's remarks on the wheat export situation at 6th Annual Meeting of the National Association of Wheat Growers at Portland, Oregon, February 1:

...Free world production abroad up 25 percent over prewar, population up 17 percent.

...Canadian supplies are 1 billion bushels, a near record; Australia has its largest crop since 1949; France, a net importer until 1953-54, has 100 million bushels to export this year.

...Wheat prices of competing exporters are consistently below U. S. support levels. Difference last year averaged about 75 cents a bushel.

...Most wheat importers restrict takings from the United States and pay their growers prices higher than cost of imported wheat.

...Foreign bakers are installing more high-speed equipment that requires flour made from harder wheat.

...U. S. wheat exhibits were popular at the Bogota (Colombia) Fair and will be featured at the Osaka (Japan) Fair, April 8-22.

Renewal of the International Wheat Agreement is being considered by member nations meeting in Geneva, Switzerland.

USDA is studying recommendations for changes in wheat standards. List of recommended changes was published February 7. Public hearings to discuss these changes will take place not before December 1956.

More than 1 million bushels of wheat have gone to Italy during January and February. These are the first shipments under USDA's expanded surplus disposal (Section 416) program through U. S. private welfare agencies this year.

\* \* \*

Sales of CCC cotton to U. S. exporters at competitive prices: Total for 7 weeks ending February 21 was 891,000 bales. This is more than total U. S. cotton exports in July-December 1955.

\* \* \*

First ICA sale of tobacco for foreign currency (Section 402, P.L. 665) is for \$1.65 million of Kentucky dark-fired to France. It's a triangular trade deal; French manufactured products will go to Vietnam.

Italy now requires exporters to obtain a license for shipping goat rennet. Wisconsin cheese makers use it to produce Italian types. There is concern in Italy over poor sales and market prospects for its cheese in the U. S.

A USDA-International Association of Seed Crushers inspection team is studying export grading, sampling, and loading of soybeans at U. S. ports. The team will make similar studies in Europe when the same soybeans arrive.

foreign output this past year as compared with the previous. Conscious of large supplies in exporting countries, importing areas are now buying on a hand-to-mouth basis, probably awaiting a decline in prices. On the other hand, some strengthening of demand may be in sight as a result of reported winter damage in Europe. Last year, the United States was the world's leading exporter, supplying 29 percent of total world wheat trade; during the 30 years 1900-29, the United States supplied 27 percent; and during the 1930's, only 10 percent.

Feed grain shipments are  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times a year ago. All feed grains shared in export gains again in January over a year ago. July-January estimate of 194 million bushels for corn, grain sorghums, barley and oats is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times exports last year. Demand is stronger generally throughout the world in view of heavier feeding rates and expanding livestock numbers. This year, the United States is benefiting especially from reduced supplies of feed wheat in Europe and last spring's short Argentine corn crop.

Foreign currency programs to continue to bolster rice exports. July-January milled rice exports are estimated at 700 million pounds this year as compared with 443 million last year. Much of this year's improvement was the outcome of last year's foreign currency program with Japan. Inclusion of rice in this year's agreement is not contemplated, due mainly to Japan's record 1955 crop. Foreign currency agreements with other countries are expected to bolster exports during the rest of the year.

#### VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS

U. S. soybean exports were aided by foreign oil shortages. Based on USDA inspections, January 1956 soybean exports are estimated at 7.8 million bushels, 2.5 million more than a year earlier. July-January estimate is 54 million bushels this year, 55 percent more than last year's 35 million. Foreign shortages of edible oils and larger foreign needs as well as good quality and competitive prices of U. S. beans have been important stimulants. Best customer is Japan.

December soybean oil exports totaled 55 million pounds. Following a sevenfold increase in November 1955 over a year earlier, soybean oil exports in December (latest month for which official data are available) increased more than 12 times. December's 55 million pounds were almost as much as the total of the previous 5 months. July-December total of 112 million pounds this year contrasted with only 18 million last year. Foreign customers, faced with smaller supplies of edible oils, are turning more to U. S. sources. Countries likely to take more U. S. oil this year than last include Spain, Italy, Greece, Chile, Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, West Germany, and Israel.

Accentuated demand for cottonseed oil continues. Despite liquidation of large CCC stocks during the past 2 years, cottonseed oil exports have continued at high levels, although below those of a year earlier. July-January export total is estimated at 315 million pounds this year as compared with 375 million last year. High level continues this year because of strong foreign demand and large U. S. supplies--the latter in commercial hands this year.



### ANIMAL FATS

Lard exports are also benefiting from stronger foreign demand. July-January estimate of 365 million pounds this year compared with 297 million last year, a gain of 22 percent. Bigger supplies, lower prices, and Government programs are main encouraging factors. Because of lower prices, this year's value is a shade under last year's.

Tallow exports still running 10 percent ahead. July-January total is estimated at 685 million pounds this year as compared with 623 million last year, a gain of 10 percent. Under pressure of heavy output, prices of tallow have remained low and have helped to sustain a strong foreign demand.

### FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

More raisins are available for export this year. Exports this July-December (latest period for which official data are available) totaled 85 million pounds compared with 50 million a year earlier. U. S. production for the 1955-56 season is 32 percent larger than for 1954-55.

Europe has bought less U. S. dry beans so far this year. Exports were 89 million pounds this July-December as compared with 113 million a year ago. European takings are likely to increase, however, due to reduced output in Africa and an expected decline in Chilean production.

### DAIRY PRODUCTS

Special programs are aiding dairy exports. More are being exported this year than last. July-December's cheese shipments this year were 6 times last year; evaporated milk, up 19 percent; nonfat dry milk solids, up 110 percent. Main factors: CCC competitive pricing and Section 416 donations of nonfat dry milk to the United Nations Children's Fund.

### I M P O R T     H I G H L I G H T S

Monthly agricultural import rate continued high. Imports in November (latest month for which official returns are available) as in the 2 preceding months, were well ahead of a year earlier: \$359 million this year was 25 percent ahead of \$287 million last year. Coffee imports continued larger because of increased consumption and inventory rebuilding. Other main factors were substantially larger domestic consumption of cane sugar and higher prices for larger imports of natural rubber.

First 5-month total running 16 percent ahead. July-November 1955 total of \$1,631 million was 16 percent more than \$1,402 million a year earlier. Largest increases were in coffee, natural rubber, and cane sugar. Chief value reduction--in cacao beans--was due entirely to lower prices; quantity was up. These four items accounted for almost \$1 billion, or over 60 percent, of total agricultural imports.

Industrial import gain was larger than agricultural. July-November imports of industrial as well as agricultural products showed large gains this year over last; industrial rise was 23 percent (from \$2,615 million to \$3,222 million). The high level of U. S. industrial activity is a prime factor in heavy imports.



DOMESTIC EXPORTS: December 1954 and 1955 and July-December 1954 and 1955

Commodity exported	Unit:	December		Value		Quantity		July-December		Value	
		1954	1955	dollars	dollars	1954	1955	1954	1955	dollars	dollars
Cheese .....	Lb.	Thousands	Thousands	1,000	1,000	2,777	16,561	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Milk, evaporated .....	Lb.	678	4,176	268	1,093	2,777	16,561	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Milk, whole, dried .....	Lb.	8,227	12,243	1,204	1,807	62,592	74,605	1,120	1,120	1,120	1,120
Nonfat dry milk solids .....	Lb.	3,130	5,938	1,669	3,092	20,383	24,529	9,251	9,251	9,251	9,251
Eggs, in the shell .....	Doz.	14,080	4,701	717	552	48,796	102,494	10,369	10,369	10,369	10,369
Beef and veal, total a/ .....	Lb.	6,320	5,672	2,060	2,920	35,682	33,377	5,138	5,138	5,138	5,138
Pork, total a/ .....	Lb.	6,718	3,743	1,797	1,127	19,270	17,192	11,319	11,319	11,319	11,319
Lard .....	Lb.	4,037	6,358	1,396	1,639	17,644	30,956	8,404	8,404	8,404	8,404
Tallow, edible and inedible .....	Lb.	57,324	69,813	9,063	8,768	242,558	288,507	41,923	41,923	41,923	41,923
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintners (480 lb.) ..	Bale	80,235	87,575	6,281	7,580	583,531	585,073	41,206	41,206	41,206	41,206
Apples, fresh .....	Lb.	8,872	17,951	871	1,555	37,279	47,118	3,294	3,294	3,294	3,294
Oranges and tangerines .....	Lb.	54,953	37,838	2,715	2,440	247,438	277,953	14,597	14,597	14,597	14,597
Prunes, dried .....	Lb.	4,866	6,811	926	1,307	34,782	38,518	6,093	6,093	6,093	6,093
Raisins and currants .....	Lb.	4,044	16,775	498	1,870	50,193	84,894	5,177	5,177	5,177	5,177
Fruits, canned .....	Lb.	9,413	22,784	1,460	3,511	111,595	141,222	16,920	16,920	16,920	16,920
Fruit juices .....	Gal.	1,294	1,534	1,146	1,430	10,021	10,492	8,334	8,334	8,334	8,334
Barley, grain (48 lb.) .....	Bu.	3,869	7,381	4,938	8,122	17,706	49,993	22,307	22,307	22,307	22,307
Corn, grain (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	9,521	12,311	16,249	17,259	33,801	65,255	57,151	57,151	57,151	57,151
Grain sorghums (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	213	8,065	242	8,525	13,423	41,397	14,302	14,302	14,302	14,302
Rice, milled, excludes paddy .....	Lb.	38,101	68,452	2,970	6,045	411,023	655,018	33,244	33,244	33,244	33,244
Wheat, grain (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	22,643	15,984	41,181	25,745	102,025	96,888	178,299	178,299	178,299	178,299
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.) ...	Bag	1,635	1,936	7,320	8,070	8,723	10,308	38,376	38,376	38,376	38,376
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	8,289	12,670	23,898	30,374	29,550	46,222	85,781	85,781	85,781	85,781
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	4,384	54,704	574	8,525	17,606	112,045	2,563	2,563	2,563	2,563
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	81,425	61,851	9,137	7,653	325,085	272,169	37,486	37,486	37,486	37,486
Tobacco, flue-cured .....	Lb.	33,769	38,720	22,518	25,704	259,145	333,705	182,068	182,068	182,068	182,068
Tobacco, leaf, other .....	Lb.	5,469	5,807	3,501	3,862	38,753	41,113	23,065	23,065	23,065	23,065
Beans, dried .....	Lb.	17,983	11,772	1,486	861	113,031	88,611	8,906	8,906	8,906	8,906
Peas, dried (ex. cowpeas and chickpeas) .	Lb.	21,137	5,876	1,542	505	91,458	23,559	6,132	6,132	6,132	6,132
Potatoes, white .....	Lb.	19,615	15,792	384	353	226,048	192,944	4,971	4,971	4,971	4,971
Vegetables, canned .....	Lb.	8,759	7,958	1,127	1,235	60,735	63,760	8,605	8,605	8,605	8,605
Food exported for relief, etc. ....				20,206	21,659			38,871	38,871	38,871	38,871
Other agricultural commodities .....				55,991	63,026			301,403	301,403	301,403	301,403
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL .....				339,372	308,300			1,582,453	1,582,453	1,582,453	1,582,453
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES .....				1,300,483	1,386,593			7,314,025	7,314,025	7,314,025	7,314,025

a/ Product weight.  
Compiled from tables appearing in the "Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report".

# IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): November 1954 and 1955 and July-November 1954 and 1955

Commodity imported	Unit	November		July-November	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		1954	1954	1954	1955
		Thousands	dollars	Thousands	dollars
Cattle, dutiable	No.	3	446	15	2,471
Cheese	Lb.	6,664	3,609	21,691	11,447
Hides and skins	Lb.	8,962	3,509	46,772	19,857
Beef and veal, total	Lb.	5,605	1,643	42,517	12,843
Pork, total	Lb.	14,369	9,796	68,069	45,972
Wool, unmd., excl. free, etc.	Lb.	11,950	10,968	63,458	55,846
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintners (480 lb.)	Bale	7	1,434	39	8,049
Jute and jute butts, unmd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	2	287	17	3,159
Olives in brine	Gal.	714	1,168	4,330	7,368
Pineapples, canned, prep. or preserved	Lb.	1,425	178	29,830	3,509
Pineapple juice	Gal.	59	27	2,630	1,105
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	3,427	4,908	14,016	18,992
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Bu.	3,249	2,909	8,796	7,252
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	272	447	1,356	2,676
Feeds and fodders	Bu.	b/	1,555	b/	7,961
Nuts and preparations	Lb.	b/	6,109	b/	24,202
Copra	Lb.	48,295	3,246	286,724	19,812
Oils, fats, waxes, veg. expressed	Lb.	48,020	7,494	220,533	32,940
Seeds, field and garden	Lb.	b/	1,793	b/	7,224
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Ton	119	12,880	1,286	141,327
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	18,410	1,524	108,358	10,402
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	6,395	4,487	34,314	23,496
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	1,603	2,208	7,108	10,536
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	1,023	52	5,408	338
Silk, raw	Lb.	590	2,527	3,106	13,219
Wool, unmd., free in bond	Lb.	8,207	4,721	60,851	33,959
Bananas	Bunch	4,022	5,633	19,159	25,870
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	164,420	106,273	611,755	439,225
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	38,225	18,847	164,269	88,385
Tea	Lb.	7,175	4,243	32,440	17,543
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	8,525	3,472	37,154	16,671
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	13	2,411	58	10,744
Rubber, crude	Lb.	101,861	23,189	544,876	114,949
Other agricultural commodities	Lb.		33,399		163,084
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES			287,392		1,402,433
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES			831,744		4,017,022

a/ Product weight.

b/ Reported in value only.

Compiled from tables appearing in the "Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report".

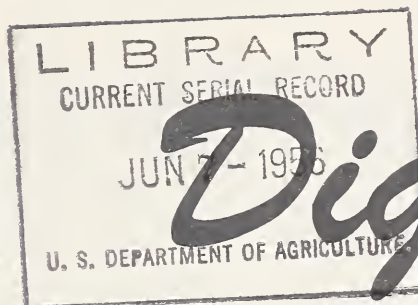


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# FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES



MARCH 1956

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

## EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Fiscal year exports through February about the same as a year ago. July-February agricultural exports are estimated at \$2,100 million this year compared with \$2,132 million last year. With the exception of cotton, all major commodity groups were ahead. Monthly cotton shipments have been below a year earlier since last February; but, for the first time this fiscal year, the lag in cotton was large enough to offset the gain in other items.

### U. S. Agricultural Exports July-February 1954-55 and 1955-56

<u>Commodity group</u>	<u>July-Feb. 1954-55 (actual)</u>	<u>July-Feb. 1955-56 (estimate)</u>	<u>Percentage change</u>
	<u>- \$ million -</u>		
Cotton exports	472	166	-65
Other exports:			
Grains and feeds	560	680	+21
Tobacco	243	301	+24
Veg. oils and oilseeds	240	258	+ 8
Fruits and vegetables	176	194	+10
Livestock products	300	354	+18
Food parcels	72	90	+25
Miscellaneous	69	62	- 9
Total other exports	1,660	1,939	+17
Total agricultural exports	2,132	2,105	- 1

February estimated export value this year 24 percent less than last year. February 1956 exports are estimated at \$215 million compared with actual exports of \$276 million a year earlier, 24 percent smaller. Major declines were in cotton, wheat grain, corn, soybeans, and cottonseed oil. Tobacco showed a slight decline.

January official export value this year 6 percent under last year. Exports in January (latest month for which official Bureau of the Census statistics are available) totaled \$256 million this year as against \$273 million last year,

6 percent less. Major declines were in cotton and wheat. Cotton exports this year were down by 77 percent from last year in both quantity and value. Wheat and flour exports were smaller in value by 14 percent due to lower prices; quantity in terms of grain was slightly ahead. Major increases were in grain sorghums, soybean oil, and tobacco.

Several factors account for noncotton export gain. The 17-percent gain in this year's noncotton exports is the result of several developments both abroad and at home. Some governments have been issuing dollar import permits more freely due to their better dollar position. Larger takings from the United States were required also by the economic growth of some countries. Exports of some commodities have been stimulated by foreign shortages. At home, surplus disposal export programs played the chief role in increasing export volume. Special Government pricing programs made it easier for exporters to compete in the foreign market. Export programs also facilitated financing of exports to countries still in dollar difficulties.

#### COTTON

Cotton export slowdown to continue until start of new season in August. July-February shipments of cotton are estimated at 935 thousand bales (480 lbs. net) this year as compared with 2,596 thousand last year. The slow movement has been due mostly to underselling of U. S. cotton by foreign competitors. Following sales to exporters during January and February of 1 million bales of 15/16 inch and shorter staples under a special export program on a competitive bid basis, CCC on February 28 announced a new export program to include all upland cotton in its inventory. Under the new program, exports are not permitted until the start of the new season on August 1. The current situation indicates that foreign importers will further reduce their already low inventories and that U. S. cotton exports will remain slow. Total takings from the United States this season probably will be less than 2 million running bales, with exports during the remainder of the current season coming mainly from the 1 million bales sold under CCC's first special export program. Prospects for larger exports after August 1 are encouraging.

#### TOBACCO

Tobacco exports maintain lead. February tobacco leaf exports are estimated at 25 million pounds this year, slightly less than a year ago and about 20 million less than January shipments. The July-February estimated total of 447 million pounds this year compares with 357 million last year. This year's total so far lacks 10 million of equaling the total for all of fiscal year 1954-55. Sales for dollars and foreign currencies both have been important factors in the export gain.

#### GRAINS

Wheat exports total close to level of a year ago. July-February exports of wheat and wheat flour totaled an estimated 174 million bushels this year, the same as actual shipments last year. Less wheat was shipped as grain but more flour moved out. The decline in grain is relatively small--



# TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

March 30, 1956

The Communist Bloc is stepping up its agricultural trade activity according to recent information. Credit is an important aspect of this activity.

- ...Canada has agreed to sell USSR 400-500 thousand metric tons of wheat (1 metric ton = 37 bushels) annually for 3 years; Hungary, 150 thousand metric tons, 85 percent on credit; Czechoslovakia 100-320 thousand metric tons, 75 percent on credit. Last year Canada sold Poland 9 million bushels of wheat, partly on credit, and in January this year agreed to sell her 4 million bushels more.
- ...Australia last December made its first wheat credit agreement: with Poland for nearly 2 million bushels.
- ...Egypt signed an agreement with Bulgaria on March 17; main agricultural items are Egyptian cotton and citrus, Bulgarian tobacco and cheese. Egypt's cotton exports to Bloc countries have recently been about double last year's rate.
- ...Burma is exchanging rice for USSR technical assistance; rice, fodder, and industrial raw materials for Czechoslovakian industrial products. Also, 50-60 thousand metric tons of rice are going to Poland.
- ...New Zealand and South Africa are now shipping wool to the USSR.
- ...Uruguay continues to pile up credits with Bloc countries under agreements made in the last 2 years. Uruguay has shipped meats, wheat, hides, and skins; in return it is to get industrial goods. Other Latin American countries have entered into similar agreements.

Communist Bloc agricultural imports represent actual consumption needs in part; in some cases, these same products are being offered for re-export. Czechoslovakia is offering Egyptian cotton in Western Europe at discount prices, and the USSR has shipped wheat to India.

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Current USDA appraisal of European storm damage to crops: Reduced production of citrus, almonds, and olive oil this year; only a small French wheat export surplus in 1956-57; possible increase in feed grains if spring conditions favor reseeding damaged wheat areas. If latter possibility materializes, France, the Low Countries, and possibly the United Kingdom may reduce their feed grain imports somewhat.

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P.L. 480, Title I developments:

- ...In March, foreign currency sales agreements totaling \$247 million dollars in export market value were signed; 8 countries were involved. This is more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the \$858 million total since inception of program in November 1954.
- ...In order to take advantage of USDA's program of competitive pricing of all qualities of upland cotton after August 1, importing countries may now ask to have the terminal delivery date of outstanding or new Title I purchase authorizations set at September 30.
- ...Importers can now get up to 180 days credit from U. S. banks handling Title I letters of credit.

\* \* \*

A full-scale supermarket--a joint effort of USDA and the National Association of Food Chains--is to be featured at the Third International Congress on Food Distribution to be held June 17-24 in Rome, Italy. This is a Section 104(a) project financed with foreign currencies resulting from Title I sales.

First 104(a) study group to come to the United States involves three officials of the Thailand Tobacco Monopoly to study manufacturing, storing, and marketing. Also under 104(a), two agricultural economists from the University of Kentucky left for Spain on March 22 to investigate market development, and a Millers' National Federation representative is now in Colombia studying market possibilities for wheat products.

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A group of West German bakers is now visiting several U. S. cities to study baking practices, management, and merchandizing. In May, another West German group, representing the meat and delicatessen trade, will study U. S. organization and operations. Both groups are paying their own way.

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U. S. agriculture's stake in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) is pointed up by the fact that in 1954 over 75 percent of U. S. agricultural exports went to GATT members whereas 50 percent of our industrial exports went to these countries. In the same time, the United States took 53 percent of its agricultural imports and 73 percent of its industrial imports from GATT members.

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P. V. Cardon announced on March 6 that he was resigning as Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for reasons of health. Sir Herbert Broadley, Deputy Director-General of FAO, will act as Director-General until a successor is chosen.



only about 8 million bushels. Foreign supplies are plentiful. Tentative appraisals of storm damage to European crops indicate that France will have a smaller export surplus this year. It appears that exports of U. S. wheat will average about 25 million bushels over the next 4 months.

Feed grain exports now total twice as much as a year ago. July-February shipments of feed grains--corn, grain sorghums, barley, and oats--totaled an estimated 210 million bushels based on USDA inspections, more than double shipments of 102 million bushels last year. Reduced supplies of feed wheat in Europe and the short corn crop in Argentina have stimulated U. S. exports. Due in part to this shortage, July-February U. S. corn shipments this year totaled about 30 million bushels more than last year.

Rice exports still ahead of last year. July-February milled rice shipments are estimated at 720 million pounds this year compared with actual exports of 467 million last year. Last year's sales of rice to Japan for yen under P.L. 480 explain much of this year's improvement in exports. The yen shipments were completed by December, and U. S. rice exports since then have been close to last year's levels.

#### VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS

Foreign shortages aid in selling more U. S. oils abroad. July-February exports of vegetable oils and oilseeds are estimated at \$258 million this year, \$18 million more than actual exports last year. Largest gains were in soybeans and soybean oil; soybean exports totaling 55 million bushels (based on USDA inspections) were up 16 million bushels. Principal decline was in the quantity of cottonseed oil exported this year, but higher prices bolstered value. Smaller supplies of edible oils abroad have caused a number of countries around the world to take more from the United States.

#### ANIMAL FATS

Lard and tallow also benefiting from heavier foreign demand. The strength of the world vegetable oil market is continuing to bolster animal fat exports. High slaughter rates have made more lard and tallow available at relatively low prices, and exports have been heavy. July-February lard shipments are estimated at 420 million pounds this year in comparison with 345 million last year; likewise, tallow exports totaled an estimated 800 million pounds as against 716 million.

#### I M P O R T     H I G H L I G H T S

December imports in 1955 under a year ago. Value for the month (latest for which totals are available) was \$319 million in 1955 as compared with about \$359 million in the preceding month and \$360 million in the like month in 1954. For the first time since July, the United States imported less value than in the previous year, but falling prices had a part in the picture. Biggest decline--\$51 million--was in coffee; due to reduced takings at lower prices. Cacao bean imports were down by \$19 million for the same

reasons. Other principal commodities involved in the drop were pork, feed grains, and tea. Increases occurred for natural rubber, cane sugar, and wool.

Imports at half-year mark were 11 percent ahead. Despite the December decline, July-December total of \$1,950 million this fiscal year was 11 percent ahead of the \$1,762 million in 1954-55. Gain amounted to \$188 million, mainly due to increased values for coffee, cane sugar, natural rubber, nuts and preparations, cotton, and wool; and reduced values for feed grains and expressed vegetable oils. Lower prices accounted for the large decline in the value of cacao beans. Both agricultural and industrial imports have been at high levels as a consequence of the strong domestic demand for raw materials and foodstuffs. With prices fluctuating, however, importers have been careful to avoid overbuying.

Higher prices big factor in rubber value gain. Largest July-December import value increase this year over last year was in natural rubber; increase amounted to \$90 million, \$2 million ahead of the \$88 million increase for coffee. Higher prices were responsible for most of the 65-percent gain in rubber; quantity rose by only 26 million pounds, or 4 percent. Strong world demand has boosted prices, with U. S. demand a particularly important factor.

Importers encouraged by more stable cacao market. July-February cacao bean imports are estimated at nearly 360 million pounds this year as compared with 316 million last year. Bulk of gain over the year before took place in January and February when arrivals totaled 125 million pounds, 34 million more than last year. During the first half of the fiscal year, importers bought cautiously due to the unstable market; some firming and recovery in prices since then have led to larger imports.

Cane sugar imports continued to increase. With an 84-thousand ton rise in December 1955 over 1954 (the 6th consecutive monthly gain), July-December cane sugar imports this fiscal year totaled 1,804 thousand short tons as compared with 1,388 thousand last year. This year's gain of 416 thousand tons more than made up the 392-thousand decline from fiscal year 1953-54 to 1954-55, when imports totaled only 3,555 thousand tons, smallest volume in 5 years.

Coffee imports holding up well through February. After running ahead of a year ago for several months, coffee imports in December lagged behind December of last year by 25 million pounds. However, arrivals in January and February just about made up this lag and helped maintain this year's higher import level. Including these arrivals, July-February total is estimated at 1,835 million pounds this year, 42 percent more than last year and 6 percent ahead of the like period in 1953-54.



DOMESTIC EXPORTS: January 1955 and 1956 and July-January 1954-55 and 1955-56 a/

Commodity exported	Unit:	January		July-January	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		1955	1956	1955-55	1955-56
Cheese .....	Lb.	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Milk, evaporated .....	Lb.	471	3,434	19,995	1,000
Milk, whole, dried .....	Lb.	11,373	16,273	3,248	1,314
Nonfat dry milk solids .....	Lb.	2,982	2,015	73,965	10,952
Eggs, in the shell .....	Doz.	25,699	22,925	23,365	11,881
Beef and veal, total b/ .....	Lb.	4,491	2,362	74,495	7,195
Pork, total b/ .....	Lb.	6,993	6,339	40,173	12,870
Lard * .....	Lb.	4,843	8,386	26,262	7,021
Tallow, edible and inedible .....	Lb.	54,807	65,355	32,487	9,716
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.) ..	Lb.	84,272	114,614	297,365	50,062
Apples, fresh .....	Bale	348	81	622,803	48,210
Oranges and tangerines .....	Lb.	12,257	14,630	2,277	413,500
Prunes, dried .....	Lb.	46,035	37,135	49,535	61,748
Raisins and currants .....	Lb.	5,249	5,738	293,472	315,088
Fruits, canned * .....	Lb.	6,286	17,700	40,031	44,256
Fruit juices * .....	Gal.	7,097	15,204	56,479	102,594
Barley, grain (48 lb.) .....	Bu.	1,759	3,178	118,692	156,425
Corn, grain (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	6,932	4,319	11,780	13,670
Grain sorghums (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	170	6,023	18,681	54,312
Rice, milled, excludes paddy .....	Lb.	32,183	30,362	40,733	73,762
Wheat, grain (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	21,149	20,830	13,593	46,820
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.) ...	Bag	1,444	1,686	443,206	695,380
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	5,254	6,454	123,743	117,718
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	2,859	47,389	10,167	11,994
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	52,387	56,328	35,133	52,676
Tobacco, flue-cured .....	Lb.	24,959	38,863	20,466	163,292
Tobacco, leaf, other * .....	Lb.	5,796	7,365	377,411	328,497
Beans, dried .....	Lb.	9,555	12,127	284,104	372,568
Peas, dried (excl. cowpeas & chickpeas)*	Lb.	13,367	3,597	44,548	48,479
Potatoes, white .....	Lb.	20,116	18,048	122,586	100,738
Vegetables, canned * .....	Lb.	7,587	13,531	104,825	27,156
Food exported for relief, etc. ....	Lb.			246,164	210,992
Other agricultural commodities .....	Lb.			68,323	77,291
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL .....		51,177	55,665		352,581
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES .....		273,394	256,315		1,855,846
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES .....		1,152,049	1,262,950		8,495,742

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight.

\* Beginning January 1956, composition of these commodity items are slightly changed due to condensations in Bureau of Census reporting schedule.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

# IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): December 1954 and 1955 and July-December 1954 and 1955

Commodity imported	Unit:	December		July-December	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		1954	1954	1954	1954
		Thousands	dollars	Thousands	dollars
Cattle, dutiable	No.	5	647	20	1,000
Cheese	Lb.	5,111	2,352	26,802	3,118
Hides and skins	Lb.	6,742	2,927	53,514	12,799
Beef and veal, total a/	Lb.	5,795	1,679	48,312	22,453
Pork, total a/	Lb.	16,151	11,355	84,220	59,265
Wool, unmd., excl. free, etc.	Lb.	11,909	10,333	75,368	66,878
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintners (480 lb.)	Bale	10	2,164	49	57,327
Jute and jute butts, unmd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	7	1,345	24	66,179
Olives in brine	Gal.	1,028	1,706	5,359	10,214
Pineapples, canned, prepared or preserved	Gal.	2,240	282	32,070	4,504
Pineapple juice	Gal.	0	0	2,630	9,074
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	2,695	4,103	16,712	3,791
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Bu.	2,130	1,890	10,926	1,105
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	228	405	1,585	23,095
Feeds and fodders	Bu.	b/	1,056	b/	9,142
Nuts and preparations	Lb.	b/	4,521	b/	3,080
Copra	Lb.	49,996	3,554	336,720	9,017
Oils, fats, waxes, vegetable expressed	Lb.	34,987	5,871	255,520	28,724
Seeds, field and garden	Lb.	b/	1,539	b/	23,366
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Ton	102	10,425	1,388	38,812
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	25,395	2,367	133,753	8,763
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	6,014	4,089	40,328	151,753
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	533	883	7,641	12,768
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	8,359	546	13,767	27,585
Silk, raw	Lb.	469	2,068	3,575	11,419
Wool, unmd., free in bond	Lb.	9,088	5,110	69,939	883
Bananas	Bunch	3,382	4,816	22,541	15,287
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	275,040	174,374	886,794	39,069
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	60,826	30,862	225,094	30,686
Tea	Lb.	8,494	5,560	40,934	613,599
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	7,681	2,569	44,835	119,247
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	8	1,315	66	23,102
Rubber, crude	Lb.	97,567	24,480	642,444	19,240
Other agricultural commodities	Lb.		32,721		12,059
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES			359,914		139,429
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES			930,959		1,762,348
			1,006,233		1,950,173

a/ Product weight.

b/ Reported in value only.

Compiled from tables appearing in the "Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report".

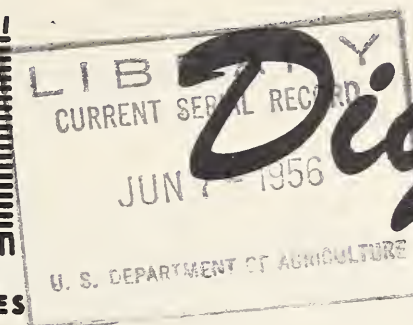


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# FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES



# Digest

APRIL 1956

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

## EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Fiscal year exports through March totaled same as a year ago. July-March agricultural exports are estimated at \$2,430 million this year compared with an actual shipment value of \$2,428 million last year. The lag in cotton exports continued but was more than offset by gains in other major commodity groups. July-March cotton total of over \$200 million this year is estimated at \$340 million less than a year ago. Summary of other exports:

- ...Grains and feeds: Estimated at \$800 million, ahead of last year by \$135 million. Wheat was about the same in quantity although lower prices have pulled this year's value down. Larger shipments of coarse grains, rye, and rice have more than offset the drop in wheat.
- ...Tobacco: \$315 million, up by \$50 million. Export weight measured 475 million pounds this year compared with 393 million last year.
- ...Vegetable oils and oilseeds: \$290 million, running \$35 million ahead. Soybean oil shipments were nearly 10 times bigger; more soybeans were exported too. Less cottonseed oil and flaxseed moved abroad, but higher prices have been holding their values up.
- ...Livestock products: \$410 million, larger by \$70 million. More lard and tallow were shipped, but lower prices have been holding lard value down. Increases occurred also in dairy products, hides and skins, and variety meats.
- ...Fruits and vegetables: \$225 million, up by \$25 million. There were notable gains in raisins, canned fruits, and canned fruit juices; reductions in peas and beans.
- ...Private relief shipments: \$110 million, more than \$25 million ahead. Shipments consisted mainly of dairy products donated by CCC to private welfare agencies for overseas distribution.

March exports this year at last year's level. March agricultural exports are estimated at \$295 million this year, the same as last year. March total compared with \$243 million this February. Largest value reduction

this March from last was in cotton. Value (but not quantity) was less for tobacco also. Largely offsetting these reductions were increases in the grain, vegetable oil and oilseed, and livestock product groups.

#### COTTON

March cotton exports showed moderate improvement. July-February cotton shipments totaled 944 thousand bales (480 lbs. net weight) this year compared with 2,596 thousand last year. Trade estimates of March shipments are more than double the 104 thousand bales exported in February. A moderate improvement over the July-February rate is expected to the season's end, with a sharp acceleration thereafter under the export program announced on February 28. Low exports during the first half of the season were due mainly to underpricing of U. S. cotton by foreign producers and to announcement in July of CCC's special export program that began on January 3. Foreign importers and mill buyers reduced purchases of all cotton to minimum replacement needs except when foreign-grown cotton was available at bargain prices. The bulk of exports in the rest of the season probably will come from the 1 million bales sold under that program. Of total exports of less than 2 million bales estimated for 1955-56, about 3/4 will be under various U. S. Government programs.

#### TOBACCO

Tobacco exports are still maintaining lead this year. Tobacco shipments this fiscal year have topped last year in 7 of the past 9 months. July-March estimate of 475 million pounds this year surpassed exports a year ago by more than 80 million pounds and was ahead of the total for all of 1954-55 by 18 million. Higher incomes abroad, especially in Europe, have firmed demand for U. S. leaf. The high level of total U. S. imports has helped greatly to provide foreign tobacco importers with the dollars to buy from the United States. Sales under U. S. Government programs as well as sales for dollars have been about equally important in this year's exports.

#### GRAINS

Wheat exports still about the same as last year. Exports of wheat and flour during March are estimated at 35 million bushels (based on USDA inspections and other information) compared with 25 million in February and 33 million in March 1955. July-March exports are estimated at 206 million bushels this year, 2 million less than last year. Japan, the Netherlands, Italy, Brazil, Egypt, and Pakistan took more. Yugoslavia, West Germany, the United Kingdom, Greece, and Israel took less.

Feed grain export volume is doubled. Except for smaller exports of barley and grain sorghums, March feed grain shipments continued larger this year than last. July-March total is estimated at 230 million bushels, about double the volume of a year ago. All four feed grains--oats, barley, corn, and sorghums--totaled more in these 9 months than in all of the 1954-55 year. Larger shipments this year have reflected smaller supplies of European feed wheat and Argentine corn. World corn output in 1955-56 is largest



# TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

April 30, 1956

On April 24 first bids were opened under USDA cotton export sales program announced in February. Purpose of the program is to improve the U. S. competitive position in foreign markets. All upland stocks from 1954 and previous crops in CCC inventory are available to U. S. exporters on a competitive bid basis. CCC will accept bids every other Tuesday until further notice, but cotton cannot be exported until August 1. Sales are for dollars but are also eligible under Government export programs. Exporters need not ship identical bales purchased, but substitute cotton must be equal in quantity (weight basis). Full details are available from the CSS Commodity Office, 120 Marais Street, New Orleans 16, Louisiana.

Another step--taken on April 17--to improve the competitive position of U. S. cotton in foreign markets was reducing the minimum level of price support for the 1956 upland crop to 28.85 cents a pound (basis Middling 7/8 inch, gross weight, average location). The 1956 level is 2.85 cents less than the 1955 support.

EXPORTERS URGED TO MARK CONTAINERS WITH "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA"  
USDA, in cooperation with other Federal agencies, suggests that exporters clearly and indelibly mark export containers with the inscription "United States of America" insofar as practicable. Suggestion is in furtherance of a joint Senate-House resolution which points out that "the products of American industry and labor are of high quality," that "such products are a proud symbol of the accomplishments of our free enterprise system and democratic way of life," and that "American-made goods should be publicized as such."

Current status of foreign currency market development [Section 104(a)] efforts financed with funds acquired from sales under Title I of P.L. 480: Program agreements involve cotton, tobacco, wheat, soybeans, and dairy products; 8 trade groups are participating; 11 projects are underway in 8 countries.

USDA and trade groups also have cooperated in 4 trade fairs and will exhibit in 4 more this summer and fall:

Already held

Cologne, West Germany  
Bogota, Colombia  
Ciudad Trujillo, Dominican Republic  
Osaka, Japan

To be held

Barcelona, Spain, June 1-20  
Rome, Italy, June 17-24  
London, England, Aug. 18-Sept. 15  
Salonika, Greece, Sept. 2-18

The Osaka fair, which closed April 22, included dairy, wheat, rice, cotton, tobacco, and soybean exhibits. This is part of what the Nippon Times said about it:

The Agriculture Department started out with a simple aim: promoting the sale of U.S. surplus agricultural products in Japan.

But in so doing this exhibit is also pounding home another message-- how to go about selling an idea and a product. For Japanese visitors to the American pavilion are being treated to a first hand view of American sales promotion techniques in high gear.

It didn't take long for the word to get around on opening day that the Americans were passing out free rolls, cheese, milk, ice cream, wheat samples, and cigarettes. Before long, the line to the dairy counter, one of the last in the exhibit, was snaking through the entire hall and threatened to wind up outside the building. . . .

The accent throughout the agricultural section was on a simple thought that the grain and dairy products the U.S. is selling, loaning, or giving away are, in a phrase, "good" for you. In the heat of criticism over the American surplus agricultural program, the notion that these surplus products can make people in food-deficit areas healthier is all too often forgotten.

\* \* \*

Recent changes in foreign import duties affecting U. S. agricultural products: Dominican Republic reduced import rates on cigarette tobacco and wheat semolina; France increased rates on unsweetened fruit and vegetable juices, at the same time decreasing rates on oranges; and Finland increased rates on fruit preparations while reducing its rates on certain dried fruits.

\* \* \*

Draft of new International Wheat Agreement was approved by UN Wheat Conference April 25: Price range is \$1.50-\$2.00 per bushel. If signed by member governments, agreement will run for 3 years beginning August 1, when present one expires.

\* \* \*

A conference on the International Sugar Agreement will be held in New York on May 21 to review its functioning, and possible future action.

\* \* \*

Exporters can obtain specifications for beef being purchased by Israel under Title I, P.L. 480 from Israel Supply Mission, 250 West 57th St., New York 19, N. Y., or American Meat Institute, 59 East Van Buren St., Chicago 5, Ill.

\* \* \*

First credit sale for export by CCC was announced April 10: 58,000 pounds of recent-crop fire-cured tobacco.



on record due mainly to increases in the United States and the USSR. Both Europe and Argentina have produced 75 million bushels more this year than last.

Rice exports this year nearly 50 percent ahead of last year. With substantial quantities of rice slated for export to Pakistan under the emergency relief provisions of Title II of Public Law 480, March shipments are estimated nearly as much as the 107 million pounds exported a year ago. July-March estimate is 840 million pounds this year compared with actual exports of 574 million last year, a gain of 46 percent. Much of this year's larger volume is due to first-half deliveries to Japan under the foreign currency sales provisions of Title I of Public Law 480.

#### FATS, OILS AND OILSEEDS

Exports of fats, oils and oilseeds continued at high levels. The current heavy export of fats and oils--an estimated \$40 million worth in March--is being encouraged by a high level of economic activity in Europe, short olive crops in the Mediterranean area, reduced output of sunflower seed in Argentina, and U. S. Government programs. July-March total is estimated at \$425 million this year, \$45 million more than last year. Larger quantities were shipped of lard, tallow, soybean oil, and soybeans. Lower prices limited the value increase for lard. Higher prices held value up for cottonseed oil despite a nearly 100 million drop in quantity.

February and March soybean exports smaller this year. Larger soybean exports during the first 7 months of this fiscal year ran the cumulative total 18 million bushels ahead of the like months last year. In February and March, however, exports are estimated to have fallen 3 million bushels. July-March total is estimated at 57 million bushels this year compared with 42 million last year. Strong foreign demand for edible oils has increased this year's U. S. crush, with consequent rising prices for beans as such. Some reports have indicated that record exports of low-priced protein meals may be limiting exports of soybeans. But July-March soybean oil exports this year, estimated at 260 million pounds, were nearly 10 times as great as last year.

#### I M P O R T     H I G H L I G H T S

Imports through January this fiscal year were 10 percent ahead. July-January agricultural imports totaled \$2,327 million this year compared with \$2,120 million last year, a gain of 10 percent. Value increases for beef and veal, cotton, wheat grain, nuts, cane sugar, wool, coffee, and rubber more than offset declines for cattle, oats, barley, fodders, and cacao beans. Smaller value for cacao beans was due primarily to lower prices abroad.

January imports gained 5 percent over a year earlier. After falling behind a year earlier in December, imports ran 5 percent ahead in January, latest month for which Census Bureau data are available. Total of \$377 million compared with \$358 million a year earlier and \$319 million in December. Largest January increase was \$21 million in rubber. Commodity

shifts from a year ago generally followed the 7-month pattern. Major exception was the smaller value for coffee: lower prices more than offset volume increase.

Volume of coffee imports showed further gain. Arrivals this February and March were well above imports a year earlier. July-March imports are estimated at 2,210 million pounds this year compared with 1,481 million last year and 2,199 million 2 years ago. Monthly import volume this year has stayed well above last year except in December. Lower foreign prices this year due to larger world supplies have encouraged increases in U. S. consumption and improved U. S. stock position.

Firmer prices abroad encouraged larger cacao purchases. Arrivals this February and March were well above imports a year earlier, reflecting increased purchases by U. S. chocolate manufacturers and other users in response to firmer prices abroad. July-March imports are estimated at 420 million pounds this year compared with 374 million last year. July-December imports had been but little larger this year than last due mainly to cautious purchasing in an unstable world market.

Feed grain imports continued to decline. July-January imports of major feed grains--oats, barley, and rye--totaled 19 million bushels this fiscal year compared with 33 million last year. Largest decline--11 million bushels--occurred in oats. Slackened imports have resulted from lower domestic feed prices. Import quotas on barley and oats were removed on October 1; only rye is now subject to quota. In fiscal year 1953-54, relatively high U. S. feed prices encouraged imports totaling 128 million bushels; in the following year, 1954-55, when prices were lower and import controls in effect, imports fell to 45 million bushels.



## DOMESTIC EXPORTS: February 1955 and 1956 and July-February 1954-55 and 1955-56 a/

Commodity exported	Unit	February		July-February	
		1955	1956	1954-55	1955-56
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		Thousands	dollars	Thousands	dollars
Cheese	Lb.	459	199	3,706	1,000
Milk, evaporated	Lb.	14,079	2,005	88,044	1,514
Milk, whole, dried	Lb.	3,616	1,862	26,981	12,058
Nonfat dry milk solids	Lb.	9,549	1,244	84,044	13,743
Eggs, in the shell	Doz.	1,482	754	41,655	8,439
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	6,443	1,689	32,705	13,624
Pork, total b/	Lb.	47,253	1,386	38,963	8,710
Lard *	Lb.	93,501	6,738	344,619	11,101
Tallow, edible and inedible	Lb.	117,154	5,785	402,189	56,800
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintors (480 lb.)	Bale	319	8,178	716,304	56,388
Apples, fresh	Lb.	16,267	58,385	2,596	471,885
Oranges and tangerines	Lb.	58,382	1,238	65,802	5,533
Prunes, dried	Lb.	6,506	2,700	351,854	19,528
Raisins and currants	Lb.	5,097	1,101	46,537	8,209
Fruits, canned *	Lb.	9,196	553	61,575	6,412
Fruit juices *	Gal.	2,749	1,454	127,888	19,467
Parley, grain (48 lb.)	Pu.	3,475	2,575	14,529	12,320
Corn, grain (56 lb.)	Pu.	9,026	4,781	22,156	28,336
Grain sorghums (56 lb.)	Pu.	1,417	16,958	50,659	86,562
Rice, milled, excludes paddy	Lb.	23,499	2,120	15,009	16,668
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Pu.	23,828	1,630	466,705	37,156
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.)	Pag	1,741	42,563	147,572	264,030
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.)	Pu.	3,838	7,369	11,908	51,974
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	2,455	11,222	38,970	112,335
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc.	Lb.	137,090	357	22,901	3,345
Tobacco, flue-cured	Lb.	21,372	15,642	515,400	207,939
Tobacco, leaf, other *	Lb.	6,119	13,061	305,476	384,313
Beans, dried	Lb.	9,203	3,895	50,667	214,362
Peas, dried (excl. cowpeas & chickpeas)*	Lb.	6,766	742	131,789	28,798
Potatoes, white	Lb.	19,920	593	111,591	10,398
Vegetables, canned *	Lb.	11,496	414	266,083	7,787
Food exported for relief, etc.	Lb.		1,429	2,226	2,650
Other agricultural commodities			17,918	95,962	5,850
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL			41,660	79,820	11,184
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES			274,415	395,782	71,890
			242,690	2,132,184	2,133,847
			1,341,229	2,719,658	3,410,989

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight.

\*Beginning January 1956, composition of these commodity items is slightly changed due to condensations in Bureau of Census reporting schedule.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

# IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): January 1955 and 1956 and July-January 1954-55 and 1955-56 a/

Commodity imported	Unit:	January		July-January	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		1955	1956	1954-55	1955-56
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Cattle, dutiable .....	No.	99	15	119	60
Cheese .....	Lb.	3,509	3,294	30,311	30,758
Hides and skins .....	Lb.	8,432	11,047	61,947	70,302
Beef and veal, total b/ .....	Lb.	6,511	7,708	54,923	74,586
Pork, total b/ .....	Lb.	15,455	14,325	99,675	93,241
Wool, unmd., excl. free, etc. ....	Lb.	18,397	19,893	93,764	98,755
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintners (480 lb.)	Bale:	16	13	66	102
Jute & jute butts, unmd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	7	13	31	30
Olives in brine .....	Gal.	1,180	1,364	6,539	7,967
Pineapples, canned, prep. or preserved	Lb.	1,564	1,770	33,634	38,649
Pineapple juice .....	Gal.	5	216	2,635	1,553
Barley, grain (48 lb.) .....	Bu.	533	555	17,244	13,628
Oats, grain (32 lb.) .....	Bu.	1,779	500	12,705	1,800
Wheat, grain (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	381	868	1,966	4,016
Feeds and fodders .....		c/	c/	c/	c/
Nuts and preparations .....		c/	c/	c/	c/
Copra .....	Lb.	50,897	74,029	387,617	410,495
Oils, fats, waxes, veg. expressed	Lb.	41,505	52,357	290,848	270,904
Seeds, field and garden .....		c/	c/	c/	c/
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.) .....	Ton	353	384	1,740	2,188
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	24,731	22,736	158,484	170,079
Tobacco, cigarette leaf .....	Lb.	6,406	7,810	46,734	49,479
Tobacco, other leaf .....	Lb.	1,285	1,535	8,927	8,169
Tomatoes, natural state .....	Lb.	20,009	20,975	33,776	26,084
Silk, raw .....	Lb.	1,066	1,262	4,641	5,521
Wool, unmd., free in bond .....	Lb.	10,558	24,041	80,497	117,561
Bananas .....	Bunch:	3,289	3,374	25,830	29,013
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico) .....	Lb.	224,257	249,163	1,111,051	1,660,596
Cocoa or cacao beans .....	Lb.	41,435	71,183	266,530	303,039
Tea .....	Lb.	10,198	9,381	51,131	58,305
Spices (complementary) .....	Lb.	5,754	9,553	50,589	48,433
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	16	16	82	83
Rubber, crude .....	Lb.	111,707	131,720	754,150	800,020
Other agricultural commodities .....					
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES .....					
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES .....					

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight. c/ Reported in value only.

Compiled from tables appearing in the "Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report".



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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

# FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES

# Digest

MAY 1956

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

## EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Fiscal year exports through April totaled 6 percent more in value, 9 percent more in quantity than a year ago. July-April agricultural exports this year are estimated at \$2,785 million, almost 6 percent greater than last year's actual exports of \$2,636 million. Quantity gain is estimated to be 9 percent. Cotton shipments were less than half of last year's total; other shipments were ahead by 23 percent.

April exports this year estimated more than 50 percent ahead of last year. Estimate of \$320 million is 52 percent larger than a year ago when exports amounted to \$210 million and 97 percent as much as in March 1956 when \$330 million worth was shipped. For the first time since January 1955, cotton shipments ran ahead of a year earlier. Most other items showed gains over a year earlier, particularly wheat, feed grains, rice, tobacco, cottonseed oil, soybeans, soybean oil, lard, and tallow.

This year's July-April farm exports compared with last year's:

	July-April 1954-55	July-April 1955-56	% chg.
	- \$ Mill. -		
Cotton	585	270	-54
Grains	726	915	+26
Tobacco	275	335	+22
Veg. oils, o'seeds.	266	325	+22
Fruits and vogs.	224	255	+14
Livestock prods.	382	465	+22
Private relief <u>1/</u>	96	140	+46
Other	82	80	- 2
Total	2,636	2,785	+ 6

1/ Mostly CCC donations to U. S. private welfare agencies for overseas distribution.

Public Law 480 has become a considerable export stimulant. One-fourth --an estimated \$627 million--of this year's exports during the July-March period (latest for which statistics are available) are attributable to activity under Titles I and III of Public Law 480, the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954. Title I provides for sales for which payments are made in the currencies of purchasing countries. Title III provides for (1) sales under barter arrangements involving payment in strategic commodities and (2) expanded CCC donations to domestic private welfare agencies for overseas distribution. Last year, 1954-55, when exports totaled

\$3,143 million, shipments under these 3 programs aggregated 10 percent--an estimated \$323 million--for the whole year, but few shipments were made during the first 6 months. The above totals are for programs administered by USDA; export programs of other Government agencies are not included.

Government export programs supplement favorable foreign market factors. Government programs stimulating agricultural exports include not only foreign currency sales and others mentioned in the foregoing paragraph but also ICA grants and foreign currency sales, Export-Import Bank loans, and--probably most important--CCC's sales of a variety of commodities on a bid basis. At the same time, foreign demand for U. S. products has been strong, reflecting high levels of economic activity, rising populations, more liberal import policies, substantial dollar receipts from trade with the United States, and U. S. Government expenditures abroad.

Agriculture accounts for over one-fifth of total exports. Agricultural commodities accounted for 21 percent of total July-March exports of U. S. goods this year compared with 22 percent last year. Total July-March exports of U. S. goods was \$11,973 million this year; \$11,050 million last year.

#### COTTON

April cotton shipments estimated well above a year ago. This April, for the first time since January 1955, cotton exports were larger than a year earlier; estimated well ahead of the 249 thousand bales of 500 pounds each shipped in April last year, exports were about 10 percent over this March's 289 thousand bales. Export pickup is due to increasing shipments of cotton sold to exporters in January and February under CCC's 1955-56 special 1 million-bale export program. As this movement was just getting under way in March, increased volume may be expected to continue through the remaining months of this fiscal year. Most of the million bales are being exported under ICA and Export-Import Bank programs. Public Law 480 funds were not available for this purpose. July-April exports estimated at 1,530 thousand bales this year compared with 3,227 thousand last year.

#### TOBACCO

Tobacco export picture continued bright. April tobacco exports are estimated nearly as great as March's 28 million pounds. July-April estimate is 505 million pounds this year, 22 percent more than exports last year. High levels of economic activity, larger currency reserves, and relatively low stocks abroad have created an increasingly favorable situation for U. S. exports. Most serious hindrance is widespread and growing use of discriminatory trade barriers. Dollar shortage has been met in part by Public Law 480 foreign currency sales.

#### GRAINS

April wheat exports this year estimated three-fourths greater than last year. Wheat and flour exports this April were somewhat under the March level but 72 percent larger than a year earlier. April estimate of 33 million bushels based on USDA inspections compares with exports of 40 million



## TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

May 31, 1956

Competition that U. S. agriculture faces in expanding overseas sales is emphasized by USDA's release, "The Competitive Position of United States Farm Products Abroad." This report, requested by Congress, summarizes the problems and barriers that currently handicap U. S. agricultural exports: More foreign production, underselling of some U. S. products, limitation in foreign demand, foreign preference for U. S. manufactures, currency inconvertibility, and trade discrimination. Foreign factors favoring U. S. exports are also considered: Increasing populations, greater economic activity, rising incomes, larger gold and dollar reserves, and more liberal import policies.

\* \* \*

U. S. on May 18 signed the new International Wheat Agreement. Fifty nations have signed, thus opening the Agreement for ratification. If ratified by July 16 by countries representing two-thirds of the guaranteed quantities, it will start August 1. It would guarantee 6 exporters--2 more than now--92 million bushels less sales than the present one does:

<u>Exporters</u>	<u>Present agreement</u>	<u>New agreement</u>	<u>Change</u>
	<u>- - - - - Million bushels - - - - -</u>		
Argentina	not in	15	+15
Australia	45	30	-15
Canada	153	103	-50
France	1/	17	+17
Sweden	not in	6	+ 6
United States	<u>197</u>	<u>132</u>	<u>-65</u>
Total	395	303	-92

Seventeen of the 44 importing countries would take less, 10 countries more. New agreement, effective for 3 years, provides for a minimum price of \$1.50 and a maximum of \$2.00 per bushel basis No. 1 Manitoba Northern wheat in bulk in store Fort William/Port Arthur.

\* \* \*

A 15-percent increase in India's wheat production is contemplated by 1960-61 over the current year's total of 8,400 thousand tons. Some say increase could amount to 40 percent. India's output now is about 30 percent over 1950-51.

\* \* \*

Bids opened in April and May under CCC's new cotton export sales program resulted in sales of 263 thousand bales. May 22 prices ranged from 27.5 through 30.37 cents a pound basis Middling 15/16 at average locations. On May 21 USDA announced that benefits of the program will be extended

1/ Less than 500,000 bushels.

to cotton textiles, cotton yarns, and spinnable cotton waste manufactured from American Upland cotton.

The 15th Plenary Meeting of the International Cotton Advisory Committee which met in Washington earlier this month foresees this result from USDA's reduced domestic support price and special export program: An improvement in cotton's competitive position and some discouragement of cotton production in world areas where it is uneconomic.

\* \* \*

Substantially all the commodities in P.L. 480 Title I foreign currency sales agreements for fiscal year 1954-55 have now been shipped. Of the 2,267 thousand metric tons programmed in that year, only 120 thousand remained unshipped as of this March 31. On the same date, about one-third of the 3,698 thousand tons programmed in 1955-56 had also been shipped. Shipments through March this fiscal year were 12 percent of total agricultural export value.

Title I shipments during March 1956 totaled 426 thousand tons--largest tonnage shipped in any one month since start of the program.

New Title I foreign currency sales announced during May:

...\$11.1 million to Turkey: Wheat, corn, rice, and beef tallow.

...\$2.8 million to Peru: Wheat or wheat flour.

...\$3 million to Paraguay: Wheat, wheat flour, lard, edible oils, and dairy products.

\* \* \*

New Section 104(a) foreign currency market-development items announced during May:

...Poultry and egg program under agreement with Institute of American Poultry Industries of Chicago.

...Tobacco project to increase sales in Japan under agreement with representatives of Tobacco Associates, Inc.; Burley and Dark Leaf Tobacco Export Association, Inc.; and Leaf Exporters Association. An extensive advertising campaign is contemplated for popular brands containing U. S. leaf.

...Agricultural participation in the trade fair at Barcelona, Spain, June 1-20. U. S. Information Service is handling exhibit for USDA.

\* \* \*

CCC is withdrawing butter from the foreign donation program: Stocks on April 30 were 4.3 million pounds this year in contrast with 221.2 million last year.



this March and 19 million last April. Gain is mostly due to increased shipments for foreign currencies. July-April estimate of 244 million bushels this year is 7 percent larger than exports of 227 million last year. At the current rate, export volume this fiscal year will reach 300 million bushels compared with 274 million in 1954-55. Competitive pricing and strong efforts under special export programs have been key factors in the year's exports.

Feed grain shipments continued to grow. April grain inspections indicate that feed grain shipments--corn, barley, oats, and grain sorghums--continued ahead of a year ago: 29 million bushels compared with 11 million. July-April estimate is 260 million bushels this year, more than double the 123 million exported last year. Although world production of feed grains this year is expected to establish a new high, consumption is up due to rising demand abroad for meat and other livestock products.

Deliveries to Pakistan big factor in rice export gain. March rice shipments (excluding paddy) totaled 118 million pounds this year, 11 million more than last year. Pakistan took 66 million pounds; Cuba, 41 million; other countries, 11 million. April shipments are estimated close to the March total, with the bulk going to the same 2 countries. Pakistan has received substantial amounts under emergency relief provisions of Public Law 480. Early-year gain represented large exports to Japan for yen. July-April shipments are estimated at 960 million pounds compared with exports of 648 million last year, a gain of 48 percent. This year, U. S. prices have been more nearly competitive, and foreign exportable surpluses are smaller than a year earlier.

#### FATS, OILS AND OILSEEDS

Exports of fats, oils and oilseeds through April this fiscal year totaled close to half a billion dollars. Important factors in the current favorable U. S. export situation for fats, oils and oilseeds are the improved economic activity and rising demand, competitive U. S. prices, export programs, and smaller supplies of certain foreign competitive oilseeds. Last year, U. S. exports of cottonseed, cottonseed oil, soybeans, soybean oil, flaxseed, and linseed oil were at record high levels. Except for linseed oil, they are expected to increase even further in 1956. July-April exports of fats, oils and oilseeds are estimated close to \$500 million this year, about one-fifth more than last year. Changes in principal items were:

- ...Soybeans--62 million bushels, up 38 percent.
- ...Flaxseed--7 million bushels, down 11 percent.
- ...Cottonseed oil--525 million pounds, down 3 percent.
- ...Soybean oil--285 million pounds, 10 times larger.
- ...Lard--530 million pounds, up 19 percent.
- ...Tallow--1,100 million pounds, up 22 percent.

April tallow shipments set record. Total is estimated at more than 175 million pounds, a new monthly record. It compares with 96 million pounds a year earlier and 113 million pounds in March 1956. U. S. tallow prices are the lowest in the world market.

Cottonseed oil shipments heavy without CCC sales. Another development worth noting is the continued high level of cottonseed oil shipments despite cessation of CCC export sales some months ago. March's 97 million pounds this year contrasted with 12 million last year; April's estimate of 45 million, with 13 million. July-April total, as noted above, is only 3 percent less this year than last.

## I M P O R T     H I G H L I G H T S

March imports up \$30 million this year. Agricultural imports this March totaled \$402 million, \$30 million more than a year earlier. They increased \$24 million over February's \$378 million. Compared with a year ago, March imports were larger mainly for coffee (+\$55 million). Largest reduction was \$9 million for cacao beans, but this was due to lower prices as the quantity imported this year was about the same.

Imports through March this fiscal year 11 percent ahead. July-March imports totaled \$3,107 million this year, \$287 million more than last year. Largest value increases were \$158 million for coffee, principal U. S. import commodity, and \$127 million for crude rubber. Other notable increases were in hides and skins, beef and veal, cotton, nuts, cane sugar, and carpet wool. Principal value reductions were in cacao beans and tea, reflecting lower foreign prices; and in cattle, reflecting smaller shipments from Mexico.

Agriculture accounts for smaller share of import total this year. Agricultural commodities comprised 34 percent of the July-March import total of \$9,017 million this year compared with 37 percent of \$7,664 million last year. Industrial imports gained by \$1,056 million. These increases in both agricultural and industrial imports are largely associated with U. S. industry's heavy demand for raw materials. Total imports are now running at the rate of \$12,000 million a year, roughly equivalent to 3 1/3 percent of the gross national product.

Coffee arrivals continued above last year in April. Arrivals in April totaled 185 million pounds this year compared with imports of 179 million pounds last year. July-April imports were an estimated 2,450 million pounds this year, well above actual takings of 1,660 million last year.

Larger April cacao bean arrivals reflect firmer foreign prices. Increased arrivals of cacao beans during April this year continued to reflect influence of firmer foreign prices on consumption. Estimated at 50 million pounds, April imports this year compared with 43 million pounds last year. This would make the July-April total 470 million pounds this year against 417 million last year.



DOMESTIC EXPORTS: March 1955 and 1956 and July-March 1954-55 and 1955-56 a/

Commodity exported	Unit:	March				July-March			
		Quantity		Value		Quantity		Value	
		1955	1956	1955	1956	1954-55	1955-56	1954-55	1955-56
		Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars	Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars
Cheese .....	Lb.	637	2,215	257	1,000	4,344	26,293	1,000	1,000
Milk, evaporated .....	Lb.	18,061	11,183	2,668	1,703	106,104	116,877	1,771	8,685
Milk, whole, dried .....	Lb.	3,830	4,340	1,888	2,060	30,812	35,594	15,626	17,815
Nonfat dry milk solids .....	Lb.	35,616	17,236	4,211	2,103	119,660	169,374	15,631	17,838
Eggs, in the shell .....	Doz.	1,813	3,062	955	1,694	43,468	41,174	12,650	18,145
Peef and veal, total b/ .....	Lb.	3,369	7,262	920	1,897	36,074	40,146	14,579	17,388
Pork, total b/ .....	Lb.	6,244	6,197	1,591	1,392	45,207	53,192	9,631	10,854
Lard * .....	Lb.	46,056	62,228	6,256	7,697	390,674	464,416	63,056	58,601
Tallow, edible and inedible .....	Lb.	90,627	112,916	7,898	9,394	806,931	929,479	64,287	77,404
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintors (480 lb.) ..	Pale:	382	289	68,839	49,844	2,978	1,233	540,724	217,431
Apples, fresh .....	Lb.	11,291	9,177	843	610	77,093	80,272	6,376	6,624
Oranges and tangerines .....	Lb.	65,726	98,648	3,201	5,948	417,580	460,205	22,729	25,676
Prunes, dried .....	Lb.	12,123	7,157	2,066	1,215	58,660	57,158	10,275	10,497
Raisins and currants .....	Lb.	7,325	8,150	775	933	68,901	128,939	7,187	13,849
Fruits, canned * .....	Lb.	17,682	18,114	2,825	2,959	145,570	198,353	22,292	31,039
Fruit juices * .....	Gal.	3,225	3,349	2,865	3,658	17,754	20,065	15,185	20,414
Barley, grain (48 lb.) .....	Bu.	4,667	7,949	6,235	7,974	26,822	66,311	34,571	70,772
Corn, grain (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	11,384	7,752	19,355	11,963	62,044	88,572	105,917	131,735
Grain sorghums (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	1,621	6,467	2,291	7,335	16,630	59,090	18,959	61,981
Rice, milled, excludes paddy .....	Lb.	107,303	117,737	7,709	10,703	574,009	860,608	44,865	62,804
Wheat, grain (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	28,277	35,834	49,768	64,120	175,849	174,926	314,747	288,222
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.) ..	Bag	2,110	1,942	9,608	8,337	14,018	15,467	61,582	66,663
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	3,234	1,886	9,173	4,824	42,204	57,206	122,481	140,536
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	3,586	42,532	536	6,545	26,487	250,471	3,881	38,660
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	12,045	97,220	1,766	14,394	527,445	481,534	60,863	69,478
Tobacco, flue-cured .....	Lb.	24,189	20,222	15,283	12,799	329,665	413,458	229,645	278,231
Tobacco, leaf, other * .....	Lb.	12,367	7,297	6,138	4,333	63,035	64,257	34,936	40,013
Beans, dried .....	Lb.	7,713	12,541	686	923	139,502	121,750	11,085	9,323
Peas, dried (excl. cowpeas & chickpeas) *	Lb.	7,061	5,622	689	524	118,652	36,003	8,475	3,174
Potatoes, white .....	Lb.	27,752	14,253	622	519	293,836	234,372	6,472	5,484
Vegetables, canned * .....	Lb.	12,323	14,193	1,573	1,933	92,141	110,155	12,757	15,181
Food exported for relief, etc. ....				11,240	22,004			83,130	117,208
Other agricultural commodities .....				44,893	56,631			439,129	488,487
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL .....				295,623	329,634			2,428,187	2,463,482
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES .....				1,330,501	1,561,545			11,050,159	11,972,533

a/ Preliminary.

b/ Product weight.

\*Beginning January 1956, composition of these commodity items are slightly changed due to condensations in Bureau of Census reporting schedule.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

## IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): March 1955 and 1956 and July-March 1954-55 and 1955-56 a/

Commodity imported	Unit	March		July-March		July-March	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		1955	1956	1955	1956	1954-55	1955-56
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Cattle, dutiable	No.	32	15	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Cheese	Lb.	5,120	5,114	2,479	1,136	219	87
Hides and skins	Lb.	15,872	14,505	2,581	2,525	38,933	39,359
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	9,082	8,528	5,800	6,724	86,662	97,504
Pork, total b/	Lb.	15,105	11,276	2,705	2,334	69,730	20,282
Wool, unmd., excl. free, etc.	Lb.	19,674	21,319	9,852	7,415	126,353	116,111
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintners (480 lb.)	Bale	28	9	15,728	15,226	127,682	138,758
Jute & jute butts, unmd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	5	7	5,908	1,774	111	129
Olives in brine	Gal.	1,297	1,195	1,261	1,387	43	55
Pineapples, canned, prep. or preserved	Lb.	7,027	9,353	2,081	2,086	8,858	10,387
Pineapple juice	Gal.	18	1,524	752	1,094	41,661	53,638
Berley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	730	534	8	564	2,653	3,670
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Bu.	1,783	245	1,085	744	18,521	16,033
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	377	648	1,722	317	16,534	2,519
Feeds and fodders	Bu.	c/	c/	905	1,112	2,573	5,638
Nuts and preparations	Lb.	c/	c/	1,016	990	c/	c/
Copra	Lb.	69,637	63,884	5,242	5,046	c/	c/
Oils, fats, waxes, veg. expressed	Lb.	42,325	47,184	5,213	4,046	496,874	520,359
Seeds, field and garden	Lb.	c/	c/	7,158	7,304	379,793	349,021
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Ton	415	417	44,384	44,523	c/	c/
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	27,588	56,618	2,144	4,397	197,687	253,241
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	6,771	6,568	4,703	4,530	59,874	63,149
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	1,596	1,421	2,181	1,811	11,783	10,829
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	14,995	18,503	1,015	1,094	69,260	73,451
Silk, raw	Lb.	677	767	2,922	3,088	5,853	6,423
Wool, unmd., free in bond	Lb.	19,124	20,055	10,672	11,672	111,513	161,842
Peanas	Funch	4,124	4,415	5,676	6,494	33,497	37,213
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	194,389	316,079	105,413	159,706	1,482,221	2,264,201
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	57,970	60,746	26,078	16,748	374,257	422,576
Tea	Lb.	15,459	10,498	12,302	5,367	76,815	76,978
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	8,850	6,911	2,838	2,594	66,439	63,368
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	15	10	2,435	1,719	110	107
Rubber, crude	Lb.	137,200	118,157	39,470	42,746	1,004,951	1,037,687
Other agricultural commodities	Lb.			36,622	32,644		
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES				371,671	402,091		
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				1,006,036	1,070,337		

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight. c/ Reported in value only.

Compiled from tables appearing in the "Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report".

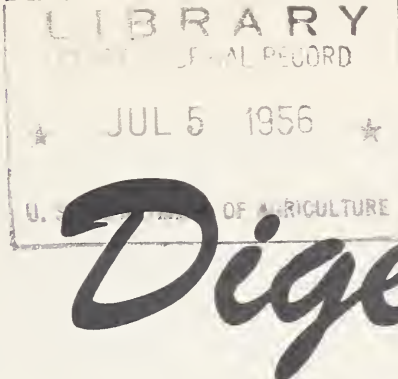


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# FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES



JUNE 1956

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

## EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Fiscal year exports through May totaled 9 percent more in value, 12 percent more in quantity than a year ago. July-May export value for agricultural commodities this year is estimated at \$3,115 million, 9 percent greater than last year's total of \$2,865 million. Quantity registered a 12 percent gain. Despite the recent pickup, cotton still totaled about half of what it was a year earlier. Other shipments were ahead by 25 percent.

May exports close to 50 percent greater in value this year than last. Estimate for May 1956 is \$340 million, 48 percent more than exports in May 1955 and 9 percent above shipment value in April 1956. Nearly all major items were ahead this May compared with a year earlier: Cotton, wheat, oats, barley, corn, tobacco, soybeans, flaxseed, cottonseed oil, soybean oil, lard, and tallow. Chief items down were grain sorghums and rice.

This year's July-May farm exports compared with last year's:

	July-May		%
	1954-55	1955-56	chg.
	- \$ Mil. -		
Cotton	629	320	-48
Grains	793	1,050	+32
Tobacco	289	360	+25
Veg. oils, o'seeds.	283	360	+27
Fruits and vogs.	248	290	+17
Livestock prods.	417	500	+20
Private relief <u>1/</u>	119	145	+22
Other	87	90	+3
Total incl. cotton	2,865	3,115	+9
Total excl. cotton	2,236	2,795	+25

1/ Mostly CCC donations to U. S. private welfare agencies for overseas distribution.

Government export programs supplement favorable foreign market factors.

Foreign demand for U. S. products has been strong, reflecting high levels of economic activity, rising populations, more liberal import policies, substantially increased dollar receipts from greater U. S. imports, U. S. Government expenditures abroad, and supply shortages in competitive producing and market areas abroad. At the same time, Government sales programs have stimulated agricultural exports. These programs include Government sales to exporters at competitive prices, as well as arrangements with foreign countries whereby they pay for purchases either with their currencies or their strategic goods. Other aids include emergency relief grants, foreign welfare donations, and Export-Import Bank loans.

### COTTON

Cotton exports still improving. As in April, cotton shipments in May are estimated larger than a year earlier. Based on conversions of trade estimates, indications are that the May total approximated 300 thousand 480-pound bales. This total compares with shipments of 240 thousand bales in May 1955 and 379 thousand in April 1956. Export pickup has reflected sales under CCC's 1955-56 1-million bale export program. Increase in volume was accompanied by a decline in export unit value: \$154 a bale in April compared with \$161 in March. Exports in the July-May period approximated 1.9 million bales this year against 3.5 million last year, 46 percent less.

### TOBACCO

May tobacco exports did better than a year ago and the previous month. May exports are estimated at more than 30 million pounds this year compared with 22 million a year ago and 29 million this April. July-May total of 542 million pounds this year is over 100 million larger than last year. Both quantity and value are about one-fourth greater than a year ago. Expanded purchasing power and relatively low stocks abroad have kept monthly shipments ahead of last year in 9 of the past 11 months.

### GRAINS

May wheat exports totaled 50 million bushels, largest volume in over 4 years. Wheat and wheat flour exports this May are estimated at 50 million bushels, largest quantity shipped abroad since March 1952 when exports totaled 53 million bushels. May volume compares with 19 million bushels a year ago and 34 million in April this year. July-May total is estimated at 294 million bushels this year, 20 percent more than the 246 million shipped last year. Two factors have predominated in this year's export gain: Sales for foreign currencies under Public Law 480 and damage to winter grain in Northern Europe. Heavy exports in the past few months will bring the year's total to at least 330 million bushels, highest in 4 years. It would compare with 273 million bushels in 1954-55.

Feed grain exports in May still very strong. With the exception of grain sorghums, feed grain exports continued ahead of a year earlier this May, based on USDA inspections. July-May total was ahead of the preceding year for all items, i. e. oats, barley, corn, and grain sorghums. Total of 7.5 million short tons this year compared with 3.6 million last year. Feed grain exports are favored by plentiful U. S. supplies and by rising demand abroad for meat and other livestock products.

Special programs have stimulated rice shipments this year. Emergency relief donations to Pakistan under Title II of Public Law 480 accounted for 56 percent of total U. S. rice shipments in March and 70 percent in April. May exports are estimated close to the April figure of 61 million pounds. July-May total is estimated at 970 million pounds this year, 200 million more than last year. Earlier this year, large quantities were delivered to Japan for yen under Title I of Public Law 480.



# TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

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June 28, 1956

It now appears that, in the fiscal year just ending, the quantity of U. S. agricultural exports, exclusive of cotton, is at the highest level of the last 30 years of record. Quantity without cotton is 20 percent ahead of 1951-52, Korean War year, and of 1948-49, big foreign aid year. Including cotton, export quantity in 1955-56 was exceeded only twice in the 30-year period. Compared with 1954-55, agricultural export quantity this year is estimated 13 percent ahead, including cotton; 28 percent ahead, excluding cotton.

\* \* \*

Cotton exports, held back most of the year pending start of CCC's million-bale export program, have now started to move. This program gave a big boost to shipments in the last 4 months of the fiscal year: March-June exports are estimated at 1.2 million 480-pound bales compared with 0.9 million in the previous 7 months of the fiscal year.

Further shipment pickup is anticipated starting August 1 when cotton now being sold under the new CCC competitive bid export program is permitted to move out: CCC reported sales of 1.8 million running bales through June 12, equivalent to 1.9 million 480-pound bales; this compares with an estimated 2.1 million total exports in the past year.

\* \* \*

Brisk U. S. agricultural exports this year are reflecting--in addition to Government export programs--the substantial gain in foreign dollar earnings. Year-end foreign holdings of gold and short-term dollars totaled \$26.1 billion in 1955 compared with \$25.0 billion in 1954 and with \$15.3 billion in 1949, year of considerable international financial stringency. An important factor in increased foreign earnings was the growth of U. S. imports. They amounted to \$11.5 billion in 1955 compared with \$10.3 billion in 1954 and \$6.9 billion in 1949.

\* \* \*

The Agricultural Act of 1956, signed by the President on May 28, is now being put into effect. Sections of particular significance to foreign trade are:

Sec. 201. Secretary is to submit program for (1) disposal of all CCC stocks, (2) food stamp or similar plan, and (3) strategic stockpiling of agricultural products.

Sec. 202. Cotton 1-11/16" or longer will be included under the Section 22 import quota for long-staple cotton; CCC is to sell existing stocks at competitive world prices.

- Sec. 203. CCC is to sell upland cotton for export at competitive world prices.
- Sec. 204. President is authorized to negotiate agreements with foreign governments to limit their shipments of agricultural items to the United States.
- Sec. 205. Annual appropriation of \$500 million is authorized for Section 32, no more than one-half for any commodity.
- Sec. 206. Materials acquired under P.L. 480 barter may be put into supplemental stockpile.
- Sec. 207. Secretary is authorized to appoint an Agricultural Surplus Disposal Administrator.
- Sec. 208. Payment of ocean freight charges is authorized on commodities donated for foreign relief under P.L. 480 or Section 416. P.L. 480 Title II foreign relief authorization is increased from \$300 million to \$500 million.
- Sec. 212. Payment of processing costs is authorized on donated food commodities.

\* \* \*

At the end of this week, most of the recent GATT tariff concessions go into effect. These are described in the new FAS publication "Tariff Concessions on Agricultural Products Negotiated at the Fourth Round of GATT Tariff Negotiations in Geneva". Concessions to the United States affect, in value of 1954 exports, close to \$100 million of agricultural products, more than half in grains and products. Tariff duties reduced by the United States affect nearly \$150 million worth of agricultural products in terms of 1954 U. S. imports, notably inedible molasses and tobacco and products.

\* \* \*

Mobile kitchens will be used to show Japanese housewives how to prepare balanced, lowcost meals including wheat products. This is one feature of the Section 104 (a) educational and promotional project announced on June 6 to expand markets for wheat and wheat products in Japan in cooperation with the Oregon Wheat Growers' League.

\* \* \*

A U. S. supermarket is on display in Rome--sponsored by FAS and the National Association of Food Chains under P.L. 480. Purpose is to display food, agricultural products, supermarket equipment and sales technique to 3,000 food distribution executives from 25 countries. The 3,500 Italians per day who walked down the aisles were entranced: "We could save so much time by buying in one place."



### FATS, OILS AND OILSEEDS

Exports of fats, oils and oilseeds continuing very favorable. Stimulated by the unusually strong foreign demand and by Governmental efforts to move U. S. supplies, exports of fats, oils and oilseeds this year have been so favorable as to definitely tighten home supplies. This year has witnessed several striking developments:

- (1) Tenfold expansion in soybean oil. With May shipments estimated at 50 million pounds, July-May soybean oil export total exceeded 330 million pounds this year compared with 33 million last year. This year's total probably will be the third largest of record. One reason for larger exports has been the limited supply of cottonseed oil.
- (2) Current output the limiting factor in further expansion of cottonseed oil exports. With May shipments estimated at 50 million pounds, July-May cottonseed oil export total came close to 575 million pounds this year compared with 561 million last year. This year's total will be a record high. Exports have been coming from current output this year, and domestic use is down.
- (3) New record for soybean exports. 4 million bushels of soybeans were inspected for export in May. July-May export total is estimated at 66 million bushels this year compared with 48 million last year. This year's total so far already has bettered last year's 12-month record of 51 million bushels. Increase has gone mostly to Europe. Soybean prices have risen markedly since the start of the marketing year in October.
- (4) New record for tallow exports. Monthly exports of edible and inedible tallow have been above 100 million pounds in 6 of the first 10 months this fiscal year (165 million in April). May estimate is 130 million pounds. July-May total of 1,225 million this year compares with 990 million last year and already has bettered the record of 1,041 million set in the previous fiscal year, 1953-54. U. S. tallow is among the cheapest fats moving in world trade.
- (5) High level lard exports. May lard exports are estimated at 80 million pounds this year contrasted with 37 million last year. July-May total of 605 million pounds this year compares with 494 million last year. Most of the increase went to the United Kingdom and Yugoslavia under Title I of Public Law 480.

### FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Orange exports have mounted rapidly. July-April orange exports of 594 million pounds this year compared with 494 million last year. As a result of damage to the Spanish orange crop by last February's freeze, European import demand for oranges from other areas is expected to continue unusually strong this summer. U. S. orange exports rose from 46 million pounds in February to 99 million in March and 133 million in April and probably continued heavy in May.

Larger April exports of potatoes mainly to Spain and Sweden. Large increase in exports of white potatoes this April reflected mainly Title I sales to Spain. Following last winter's European freeze, Spain shipped potatoes to Northern Europe. Spain then bought Title I potatoes to rebuild stocks. April exports also included shipments to Sweden to help offset losses in stored potatoes during last winter's freeze. Of 67 million pounds exported in April, 51 million were destined to Spain; 5 million, to Sweden. Exports to all countries were 40 million pounds in April 1955 and 14 million in March this year. July-April total of 302 million pounds this year is 32 million less than last year.

#### IMPORT HIGHLIGHTS

April imports about the same this year as last. Agricultural imports in April totaled \$316 million this year compared with \$318 million last year. There were few value changes of significance: \$4 million increase in barley grain, \$9 million decrease in cocoa beans.

Imports through April this fiscal year 9 percent ahead. July-April agricultural imports amounted to \$3,424 million this year, 9 percent ahead of last year's \$3,128 million. There were notable gains in value for coffee, \$159 million; natural rubber, \$124 million; cane sugar, \$50 million; wool, \$35 million; nuts, \$12 million; and hides and skins, \$10 million. Main reductions were in cocoa beans, \$66 million; tea, \$13 million; dutiable cattle, \$12 million; and oats, \$12 million.

High level of total imports paying for bulk of exports. Total imports in the July-April period were \$9,995 million this year contrasted with \$8,536 million last year. Value of this year's imports is equivalent to 75 percent of the dollar purchasing power involved in total domestic exports of \$13,467 million so far this year. Increase of \$1,459 million in imports this year exceeds the corresponding gain of \$1,167 million in exports. The present high level of U. S. imports has been chiefly the outcome of expanded economic activity at home aided by a liberal import policy.

May coffee arrivals drop below a year ago. Arrivals of coffee in May totaled 218 million pounds this year compared with imports of 234 million pounds last year. July-May imports are estimated at 2,665 million pounds, well ahead of last year's 1,894 million pounds. July-April import prices have averaged lower this year: 50 cents a pound compared with 68 cents last year.

Cocoa import upturn continues. Cocoa bean arrivals in May totaled 53 million pounds this year compared with imports of 31 million pounds last year. Stable foreign prices have continued to encourage greater intake. July-May total of an estimated 523 million pounds this year compared with 449 million pounds last year.



DOMESTIC EXPORTS: April 1955 and 1956 and July-April 1954-55 and 1955-56 a/

Commodity exported	Unit:	April				July-April			
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		1955	1956	1955	1956	1954-55	1955-56	1954-55	1955-56
Cheese .....	Lb.	631	1,818	1,000	1,000	4,974	28,111	1,000	1,000
Milk, evaporated .....	Lb.	16,612	12,346	2,479	1,839	122,716	131,223	18,105	19,654
Milk, whole, dried .....	Lb.	4,626	3,661	2,361	1,738	35,437	39,256	17,992	19,576
Nonfat dry milk solids .....	Lb.	22,455	11,929	1,311	1,606	142,115	181,303	13,961	19,750
Eggs, in the shell .....	Doz.	1,845	2,854	871	1,400	45,313	44,028	15,450	18,788
Beef and veal, total b/ .....	Lb.	1,934	3,744	524	1,054	38,008	43,890	10,155	11,907
Pork, total b/ .....	Lb.	6,344	5,804	1,603	1,225	51,551	58,996	14,296	14,495
Lard, incl. shortenings, (animal) .....	Lb.	56,492	59,328	7,875	7,476	447,697	524,531	71,041	66,214
Tallow, edible and inedible .....	Lb.	96,296	165,738	7,912	13,394	903,227	1,095,217	72,199	90,798
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintners (480 lb.) ..	Bale	249	379	44,753	58,464	3,227	1,633	585,477	275,895
Apples, fresh .....	Lb.	7,363	11,944	570	839	84,457	92,216	6,946	7,463
Oranges and tangerines .....	Lb.	76,092	133,434	4,007	8,460	493,671	593,639	26,736	34,136
Prunes, dried .....	Lb.	6,565	6,129	1,247	1,036	65,225	63,287	11,522	11,532
Raisins and currants .....	Lb.	5,247	4,333	550	560	74,148	133,273	7,737	14,409
Fruits, canned * .....	Lb.	7,839	8,072	1,290	1,256	143,061	186,946	22,116	29,341
Fruit juices * .....	Gal.	1,073	1,173	1,335	1,535	10,347	10,832	11,511	14,970
Barley, grain (48 lb.) .....	Bu.	3,048	11,380	3,949	11,527	29,870	77,691	38,520	82,299
Corn, grain (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	4,726	9,883	7,849	15,636	66,769	98,454	113,766	147,371
Grain sorghums (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	1,656	4,381	1,974	4,962	18,287	63,471	20,934	66,943
Rice, milled, excludes paddy .....	Lb.	73,836	60,992	5,256	5,634	647,845	921,600	50,121	68,437
Wheat, grain (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	14,190	29,241	24,926	50,679	190,039	204,167	339,673	348,901
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.) ....	Bag	2,190	2,070	9,795	8,464	16,208	17,537	71,377	75,128
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	2,842	5,037	7,680	13,628	45,046	62,243	130,161	154,164
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	2,876	31,629	412	4,965	29,363	282,100	4,293	43,626
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	14,538	42,716	2,338	7,080	541,983	524,250	63,201	76,558
Tobacco, flue-cured .....	Lb.	12,315	23,148	7,453	15,294	341,980	436,606	235,098	293,525
Tobacco, leaf, other * .....	Lb.	5,934	5,313	3,036	3,191	65,374	66,561	38,200	41,571
Beans, dried .....	Lb.	6,318	16,515	571	1,074	145,819	138,265	11,656	10,397
Peas, dried (excl. cowpeas & chickpeas) *	Lb.	4,279	1,452	415	137	122,931	37,455	8,890	3,312
Potatoes, white .....	Lb.	39,700	67,204	1,297	2,014	333,535	301,576	7,769	7,497
Vegetables, canned * .....	Lb.	8,001	3,490	874	482	68,116	77,643	95,493	10,303
Food exported for relief, etc. ....				12,363	12,669				129,877
Other agricultural commodities .....				39,650	51,960			491,766	557,238
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL .....				208,747	311,997			2,636,934	2,775,479
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES .....				1,249,374	1,494,245			12,299,533	13,466,778

a/ Preliminary.

b/ Product weight.

\*Composition of these groups includes principal classes only, due to condensation in Bureau of Census reporting schedules.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): April 1955 and 1956 and July-April, 1954-55 and 1955-56 a/

Commodity imported	Unit	April		July-April	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		1955	1956	1954-55	1955-56
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
			dollars		dollars
Cattle, dutiable	No.	31	2,742	250	20,221
Cheese	Lb.	4,195	2,215	43,128	22,134
Hides and skins	Lb.	8,001	3,842	94,664	39,476
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	8,361	2,298	78,091	23,285
Pork, total b/	Lb.	11,352	7,274	137,705	93,017
Wool, unmd., excl. free, etc.	Lb.	17,551	14,222	145,233	123,245
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintners (480 lb.)	Bale	17	3,801	128	26,530
Jute and jute butts, unmd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	5	1,304	48	10,755
Olives in brine	Gal.	1,165	1,992	10,023	16,806
Pineapples, canned, prep. or preserved	Lb.	11,142	1,272	52,803	6,091
Pineapple juice	Gal.	152	55	2,805	1,188
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	934	1,365	19,455	27,057
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Bu.	1,149	1,039	17,683	15,391
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	321	701	2,894	5,803
Feeds and fodders	Bu.	c/	1,439	c/	13,273
Nuts and preparations	Lb.	c/	5,055	c/	45,635
Copra	Lb.	50,467	3,594	547,342	38,890
Oils, fats, waxes, veg. expressed	Lb.	38,079	5,736	417,872	65,682
Seeds, field and garden	Lb.	c/	839	c/	13,676
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Ton	350	37,144	2,851	306,118
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	46,417	3,624	244,104	22,210
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	6,822	4,611	66,697	45,972
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	1,182	1,603	12,963	18,980
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	13,431	959	82,692	5,203
Silk, raw	Lb.	425	1,786	6,278	27,073
Wool, unmd., free in bond	Lb.	17,074	9,406	128,587	71,189
Bananas	Bunch	4,399	6,136	37,896	51,939
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	178,581	90,882	1,660,801	1,058,318
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	43,028	18,018	417,285	204,856
Tea	Lb.	7,842	5,970	84,657	56,409
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	4,940	1,989	71,378	29,511
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	12	2,049	122	21,284
Rubber, crude	Lb.	136,893	40,661	1,141,844	277,501
Other agricultural commodities	Lb.		32,050		323,143
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES			317,629		3,127,861
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES			871,999		8,536,251

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight. c/ Reported in value only.

Compiled from tables appearing in the "Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report".



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# FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



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JULY 1956

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

(Trade News Roundup is omitted this month because of the extensive review of fiscal year exports.)

## EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Exports were 10 percent ahead of 1954-55 in value, 13 percent ahead in quantity. U. S. agricultural exports in fiscal year 1955-56 are estimated at \$3,475 million, 10 percent ahead of the \$3,145 million in 1954-55. Increase in quantity (exports measured in constant prices) amounted to 13 percent. Exclusive of cotton, exports were ahead by 26 percent in value, 30 percent in quantity.

Exclusive of cotton, exports were at a 30-year high. If cotton is excluded from last year's total, remaining quantity was at the highest level of the last 30 years of record. Quantity without cotton was 22 percent ahead of both the 1951-52 Korean War year and the 1948-49 heavy foreign aid year.

Fiscal year farm exports compared 1/

	1954-55	1955-56	% chg.
	- \$ Mil. -		
Cotton	684	375	-55
Grains	882	1,170	+33
Tobacco	306	380	+24
Veg. oils, o'seeds.	302	400	+32
Fruits and vogs.	274	325	+19
Livestock prods.	461	545	+18
Private relief <u>2/</u>	142	175	+23
Other	94	105	+11
Total incl. cotton	3,145	3,475	+10
Total excl. cotton	2,461	3,100	+26

1/ 1955-56 partly estimated. 2/ Mostly CCC donations to U. S. private welfare agencies for overseas distribution.

Quantity with cotton last year was exceeded only twice in the past 30 years. Export quantity including cotton in 1955-56 was the third largest since 1925. Quantity totaled 97 percent as much as in 1951-52 and 96 percent as much as in the 1926-27 boom year.

Exports continued their uphill trend of the previous 2 years. In each year since 1952-53, agricultural exports have made steady upward progress. Last year they were 23 percent greater in value and 34 percent greater in quantity than in 1952-53, post-Korean low mark.

June exports gained 21 percent over a year earlier. June agricultural

exports are estimated at \$340 million in 1955-56 compared with \$279 million in 1954-55, a gain of 21 percent. June exports were 6 percent smaller than May's \$361 million. Increase this June over last reflected chiefly larger shipments of grains and of vegetable oils and oilseeds. Other increases: Tobacco, fruits and vegetables, and livestock products. Based on trade sources, cotton shipments were smaller.

Foreign economic activity was at high level. Industrial nations continued their high rate of economic expansion. In Western Europe--which takes about half of U. S. farm exports--industrial output reached a record high.

Foreign buyers were financially stronger. Foreign countries increased dollar imports and added materially to dollar reserves. Their holdings of gold, short-term dollar assets, and U. S. Government bonds and notes amounted to \$27.5 billion at the end of 1955, an increase of \$1.7 billion over 1954. Improvement was largely due to record dollar receipts from sales of goods and services.

Import liberalization facilitated exports. A number of countries, particularly those in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, liberalized import policies toward U. S. farm products.

Foreign shortages were important in export gain. Shortages developed in foreign supplies of some important commodities due to unfavorable weather. Last winter's freeze in Europe damaged some grain and fruit crops. Pakistan took more wheat and rice due to drought. A short sunflower-seed crop in Argentina and decreased production of olive oil in the Mediterranean Basin raised demand for U. S. fats and oils.

Government programs aided exports. They included sales to exporters at competitive prices, arrangements with foreign countries whereby they pay for purchases with their currencies or strategic goods, relief grants, welfare donations, and Export-Import Bank loans.

Title I accounted for 12 percent of agricultural exports. Export market value of shipments against foreign currencies under Public Law 480 approximated \$425 million in 1955-56 compared with \$72 million in 1954-55. Title I wheat comprised about 28 percent of all wheat exports; cotton, 23 percent; cottonseed and soybean oils, 50 percent; and tobacco, 13 percent.

Section 402 ICA shipments were larger. ICA sold agricultural products for foreign currency under the Mutual Security Act. Dollar amounts paid out during the year for shipments are estimated at \$300 million in 1955-56 compared with \$186 million in 1954-55, when dollar aid was still in the pipeline.

Barter accounted for 8 percent of exports. Preliminary indications are that export market value for barter shipments under Title III of Public Law 480 totaled \$264 million in 1955-56 compared with \$125 million in 1954-55. Barter comprised 16 percent of all wheat exports last year; corn, 44 percent; barley, 37 percent; and oats, 44 percent. If all wheat sold for export under barter moved out last year, barter would account for 24 percent of total wheat exports.



Public Law 480 programs helped needy overseas. Title II of Public Law 480 enabled use of some surplus farm products to alleviate suffering abroad due to natural disasters. Shipments reported through June 30 totaled \$90 million in 1955-56 compared with \$83 million in 1954-55.

Private agencies shipped CCC donations to help foreign needy. Public Law 480 authorizes donations of surplus foods in CCC stocks to U. S. relief agencies and to intergovernmental organizations to assist needy persons abroad. Export market value is estimated at \$175 million in 1955-56 compared with \$126 million in 1954-55. Donations included nonfat dry milk solids, butter, butter oil, cheese, cottonseed oil, wheat, corn, rice, and dry beans.

Export-Import Bank financed cotton shipments. The Export-Import Bank financed cotton shipments of \$62 million in 1955-56 for Japan and Austria. In 1954-55, the Bank financed cotton for Japan and wheat for Brazil, amounting to \$69 million.

### COTTON

U. S. cotton prices were not competitive during most of the year. With an upsurge in shipments during the last 4 months of fiscal year 1955-56, the year's cotton total stood at an estimated 2.3 million 480-pound bales, 39 percent under the 1954-55 figure of 3.8 million. Low level of exports during the first 8 months of 1955-56 reflected mainly underpricing of U. S. cotton by exporters abroad and expectation of lower U. S. prices. Foreign importers reduced purchases to minimum replacement needs. Pickup in the last 4 months was the outcome of CCC sales on a bid basis of 1 million running bales of 15/16 inch and shorter staple.

### TOBACCO

Tobacco export quantity was largest in 10 years; value set new record. Tobacco exports are estimated at 570 million pounds (export weight) in 1955-56 compared with 460 million in 1954-55. Past year's quantity is largest since 1946-47; value of \$380 million is largest of record. Increase was due largely to sales for foreign currency under Public Law 480, but dollar sales also gained substantially. Two factors augmenting foreign demand for U. S. leaf: Low stocks and increasing use of light tobaccos.

### GRAINS

Grains and feeds showed greatest dollar gain. Exports of grains and feeds are estimated at \$1,170 million in fiscal year 1955-56, 33 percent larger than the \$882 million in 1954-55. Dollar gain totaled \$288 million, largest of the major groups. Principal factors were improved economic conditions, increased dollar earnings and holdings abroad, increased feed grain requirements in many countries, surplus disposal programs, and damage to winter wheat in Northwestern Europe.

Wheat exports were largest in 4 years. Exports of wheat and wheat flour totaled 340 million bushels in 1955-56, based on shipments through May and USDA inspections in June, compared with 274 million in 1954-55. Exports this June totaled 45 million bushels compared with 27 million last June.

Record high was attained by feed grain exports. Feed grain exports--corn, oats, barley, and grain sorghums--in 1955-56 were a record 8.3 million short tons, 84 percent more than the 4.5 million in 1954-55.

Japan accounted for larger rice exports. Milled rice exports increased from 8.8 million bags in 1954-55 to an estimated 11.2 million in 1955-56. Improvement reflected Title I shipments to Japan for yen early in the year. Late in the year Title II grants were made to Pakistan.

#### VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS

Vegetable oil and oilseed exports were up one-third. Exports of oilseeds and expressed vegetable oils totaled an estimated \$400 million in 1955-56 compared with \$300 million in 1954-55. Last year's performance was the outcome of improved economic activity and rising demand abroad, competitive U. S. prices, export programs, and smaller supplies of oil olives and certain foreign competitive oilseeds.

Soybean exports set new record. Soybean exports are estimated at 69 million bushels in fiscal year 1955-56 based on shipments through May and USDA inspections in June. Last year's total was a record high, 37 percent above 1954-55. Factors in last year's gain: CCC cottonseed oil supplies sold or committed. Dependable U. S. deliveries. Need for byproduct cake and meal for feed abroad. Need to use oil mill capacity abroad.

Combined exports of soybean and cottonseed oils set 1 billion-pound record. Quantity for 1955-56 is a new record totaling more than 50 percent larger than the 660 million pounds in 1954-55. Two factors predominated: Decreased production of olive oil in the Mediterranean Basin. A very short sunflower-seed crop in Argentina in 1955.

#### LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

Livestock product exports were ahead by 18 percent. Exports of livestock products are estimated at \$545 million in 1955-56, 18 percent above the 1954-55 figure of \$461 million. All groups showed increases: Fats, meats, hides and skins, poultry products, and dairy products. Government programs aided in stepping up exports of most items, but competitive pricing helped in the advance of others.

Lard shipments were largest in 4 years. Lard exports totaled 645 million pounds in 1955-56--a 4-year peak--25 percent larger than the 516 million in 1954-55. June shipments are estimated at 50 million pounds in 1955-56 compared with 32 million in 1954-55. Strong foreign demand for edible fats and oils aided U. S. shipments of lard. Prices were competitive; quality, high.

Tallow exports were at record high. Exports of edible and inedible tallow set another record in 1955-56: 1,330 million pounds compared with 1,092 million in 1954-55. Competitive price and high quality have been chief export stimulants.



Beef exports were largest since 1946-47. Beef and veal exports are estimated at 51 million pounds (product weight) in 1955-56, 19 percent greater than in 1954-55. Shipments in 1955-56 included sizable quantities of frozen beef to Spain under an ICA program.

Lower prices helped move pork abroad. Exports of pork in 1955-56 totaled an estimated 72 million pounds (product weight) compared with 63 million in the previous year. Last year domestic supplies were larger and prices lower.

United States has become an important exporter of hides and skins. Exports of hides and skins--largely cattle hides and calf skins--totaled an estimated 10 million pieces in 1955-56 compared with 9 million in 1954-55. Because of the record U. S. slaughter of cattle and calves, this country has become a very important competitor in foreign markets. Foreign buyers are becoming aware of high U. S. quality.

Butter and cheese exports were stimulated by Government programs. An estimated 33 million pounds of butter was exported in 1955-56 compared with 14 million in 1954-55. Exports of cheese totaled an estimated 35 million pounds in 1955-56 compared with 9 million in 1954-55. Most of the gains reflected Government sales and Government export programs.

Nonfat dry milk exports benefited from Government programs. Exports of nonfat dry milk solids totaled an estimated 220 million pounds in 1955-56 compared with 176 million in 1954-55. Government programs have played the major role in expanding these exports.

#### FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Orange exports set record last year. The year's most striking development in exports of fruits and vegetables was the record volume of fresh oranges. Total for 1955-56 is estimated at 1,330 million pounds compared with 640 million in 1954-55 and the previous record of 823 million pounds in 1953-54. Principal factor in the rise was the Spanish freeze last February which limited Spain's supply for Europe.

Grape exports gained in quality and quantity. Fresh grapes are estimated at a record 155 million pounds in 1955-56 compared with 114 million in 1954-55. The grape industry made high-quality shipments to Europe last year. After an absence of 15 years, California grapes were back on the English market.

Short crop slowed prune exports. Dried prune exports totaled an estimated 75 million pounds in 1955-56, slightly under 1954-55. Exports were limited by the short U. S. crop in 1955.

Raisin exports showed marked gain last year. A good demand in Europe, a poor quality Australian crop, and a short Turkish crop were of considerable importance in boosting raisin exports in 1955-56. Year's 155 million pounds--a 3-year high--contrasted with 83 million in 1954-55.

Bean exports showed slight recovery. Dry bean exports are estimated at 170 million pounds in 1955-56 compared with 163 million in 1954-55. Gain reflected good European demand.

Crop recovery in Europe hit U. S. pea exports. Dry pea exports (excluding cowpeas and chickpeas) declined from the unusually high level of 127 million pounds in 1954-55 to an estimated 45 million in 1955-56. Last year's shipments were comparable with the 55 million pounds moved out in 1953-54. Shipments were increased in 1954-55 to help offset shortages due to poor 1954 harvests in Europe. Crops were better in Europe last year.

Larger Canadian output weakened demand for U. S. potatoes. White potato exports are estimated at 360 million pounds in 1955-56 compared with 427 million in 1954-55. Decline was the outcome of larger 1955 crops in Canada. Last year the United States exported over 50 million pounds to Spain under Title I.

#### I M P O R T      H I G H L I G H T S

Agricultural imports expanded last year. July-May agricultural imports totaled \$3,755 million in 1955-56 compared with \$3,468 million in 1954-55. At this rate, imports for the year as a whole exceeded \$4 billion and were comparable with the \$4,176 million total in fiscal year 1953-54. Expansion last year was a reversal of a downward trend that began in 1951-52.

Major rise was in noncompetitive items. During the July-May period, the larger increase occurred in imports of complementary, or noncompetitive, products. Value gained by 9 percent over 1954-55, from \$2,108 million to \$2,307 million. Major quantity increases were in coffee, cocoa beans, and carpet wool. Less rubber was imported, but higher prices caused its value to rise above that for 1954-55. More cocoa beans were imported, but lower prices resulted in a value drop.

Competitive import increase amounted to \$87 million. July-May supplementary, or competitive, agricultural imports rose from \$1,361 million in 1954-55 to \$1,448 million in 1955-56, a gain of 6 percent. Principal rise was in cane sugar. Most other increases were moderate. Plentiful U. S. supplies and relatively low domestic prices caused considerable decline in imports of oats while the intake of barley was about the same as the reduced level of 1954-55. Cattle imports showed a marked reduction.

June coffee arrivals were well ahead of a year earlier. Arrivals of coffee in June totaled 230 million pounds in 1955-56 compared with imports of 180 million in 1954-55. Fiscal year total is estimated at 2,890 million pounds in 1955-56, well ahead of 2,074 million in 1954-55. Brazil's coffee exports to the United States continued at a high level.

June cocoa arrivals continued import rise. Cocoa bean arrivals in June totaled 50 million pounds in 1955-56 compared with imports of 44 million in 1954-55. Stable foreign prices have continued to encourage larger U. S. purchases. Fiscal year total of an estimated 585 million pounds in 1955-56 compared with 493 million in 1954-55.



## DOMESTIC EXPORTS: May 1955 and 1956 and July-May 1954-55 and 1955-56 a/

Commodity exported	Unit	May		July-May		Value		Quantity		Value	
		1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1954-55	1955-56	1954-55	1955-56
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars	Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars
Cheese .....	Lb.	394	3,294	175	1,495	1,000	1,000	5,368	31,405	2,167	10,899
Milk, evaporated .....	Lb.	9,866	9,645	1,465	1,428	1,465	1,428	132,582	140,868	19,570	21,082
Milk, whole, dried .....	Lb.	3,196	3,951	1,659	1,835	1,659	1,835	38,634	43,206	19,651	21,411
Nonfat dry milk solids .....	Lb.	2,060	26,127	337	2,907	337	2,907	144,175	207,431	14,299	22,658
Eggs, in the shell .....	Doz.	3,447	2,143	1,453	1,067	1,453	1,067	48,759	46,170	16,903	19,855
Beef and veal, total b/ .....	Lb.	2,547	2,178	739	594	739	594	40,555	46,068	10,894	12,502
Pork, total b/ .....	Lb.	5,969	6,807	1,455	1,544	1,455	1,544	57,520	65,803	15,751	16,039
Lard, incl. shortenings, (animal) .....	Lb.	36,628	68,955	5,258	9,053	5,258	9,053	484,326	593,487	76,299	75,267
Tallow, edible and inedible .....	Lb.	87,097	126,688	7,116	10,204	7,116	10,204	990,323	1,221,889	79,315	101,001
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.) ..	Pale	240	361	43,054	56,524	43,054	56,524	3,467	1,993	628,571	332,419
Apples, fresh .....	Lb.	7,125	6,936	580	492	580	492	91,582	99,152	7,526	7,955
Oranges and tangerines .....	Lb.	79,122	155,070	4,288	10,417	4,288	10,417	572,794	748,709	31,024	44,553
Prunes, dried .....	Lb.	8,275	4,936	1,266	889	1,266	889	73,501	68,223	12,787	12,422
Raisins and currants .....	Lb.	5,246	7,527	554	929	554	929	79,394	140,800	8,291	15,338
Fruits, canned * .....	Lb.	12,467	21,979	2,113	3,363	2,113	3,363	155,528	208,925	24,228	32,704
Fruit juices * .....	Gal.	1,157	1,983	1,379	2,741	1,379	2,741	11,504	12,815	12,890	17,712
Barley, grain (48 lb.) .....	Bu.	4,651	9,930	5,351	10,529	5,351	10,529	34,522	87,621	43,871	91,395
Corn, grain (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	4,354	11,644	7,244	19,211	7,244	19,211	71,124	110,098	121,010	166,582
Grain sorghums (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	5,220	4,338	5,963	5,077	5,963	5,077	23,507	67,809	26,897	72,020
Rice, milled, excludes paddy .....	Lb.	121,197	60,606	8,662	4,869	8,662	4,869	769,042	982,206	58,783	73,306
Wheat, grain (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	14,801	41,658	25,278	69,680	25,278	69,680	204,829	245,825	364,919	418,581
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.) ..	Pag.	1,782	1,809	7,591	7,308	7,591	7,308	17,990	19,346	78,968	82,436
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	3,338	4,330	9,232	12,284	9,232	12,284	48,384	66,573	139,393	166,448
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	3,762	47,949	529	7,826	529	7,826	33,125	330,049	4,823	51,452
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	20,472	49,654	3,400	8,133	3,400	8,133	562,455	573,998	66,601	84,707
Tobacco, flue-cured .....	Lb.	18,098	27,909	11,745	17,822	11,745	17,822	360,078	465,733	246,843	312,040
Tobacco, leaf, other * .....	Lb.	3,687	7,038	2,028	3,841	2,028	3,841	69,114	73,555	40,228	45,395
Beans, dried .....	Lb.	5,377	23,641	491	1,364	491	1,364	151,197	161,906	12,146	11,761
Peas, dried (excl. cowpeas & chickpeas) *	Lb.	2,594	2,096	239	163	239	163	127,885	40,830	9,407	3,574
Potatoes, white .....	Lb.	40,539	25,567	1,505	984	1,505	984	374,075	327,143	9,273	8,481
Vegetables, canned * .....	Lb.	7,697	8,904	973	1,118	973	1,118	75,813	86,548	9,754	11,421
Food exported for relief, etc. ....				23,434	23,882	23,434	23,882			118,926	154,029
Other agricultural commodities .....				42,477	61,853	42,477	61,853			533,967	618,728
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL .....				229,033	361,426	229,033	361,426			2,865,975	3,136,173
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES .....				1,315,875	1,684,342	1,315,875	1,684,342			13,617,255	15,173,315

a/ Preliminary.

b/ Product weight.

\*Composition of these groups includes only those classes which are separately classified in the Bureau of Census 1956 reporting schedule. Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): May 1955 and 1956 and July-May 1954-55 and 1955-56 a/

Commodity imported	Unit	May		July-May	
		1955		1954-55	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		1955	1956	1954-55	1955-56
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Cattle, dutiable	No.	13	11	263	104
Cheese	Lb.	3,708	4,298	46,836	48,261
Hides and skins	Lb.	14,182	17,637	108,845	129,917
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	8,760	6,428	86,851	105,707
Pork, total b/	Lb.	15,519	15,885	153,223	146,025
Wool, unmd., excl. free, etc.	Lb.	17,671	20,564	162,904	175,910
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintners (480 lb.)	Pale	12	6	140	141
Jute and jute butts, unmd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	6	8	54	72
Olives in brine	Gal.	1,111	1,082	11,134	12,827
Pineapples, canned, prep. or preserved	Lb.	7,729	13,083	60,532	73,917
Pineapple juice	Gal.	224	1,513	3,029	6,244
Farley, grain (48 lb.)	Pu.	1,672	3,045	21,127	22,881
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Pu.	1,233	120	18,916	2,783
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Pu.	602	792	3,496	8,132
Feeds and fodders		c/	c/	c/	c/
Nuts and preparations		c/	c/	c/	c/
Copra	Lb.	63,486	58,389	610,828	616,006
Oils, fats, waxes, veg. expressed	Lb.	43,063	32,573	462,156	415,253
Seeds, field and garden		c/	c/	c/	c/
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Ton	289	386	3,140	3,769
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	49,837	62,049	293,941	354,449
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	6,942	7,536	73,639	78,272
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	1,441	1,431	14,405	13,274
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	4,120	2,807	86,812	82,073
Silk, raw	Lb.	474	545	6,751	7,575
Wool, unmd., free in bond	Lb.	16,425	12,545	145,012	190,192
Bananas	Bunch	4,767	4,401	42,663	42,947
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	234,279	213,283	1,895,080	2,660,269
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	31,468	64,508	448,753	534,560
Tea	Lb.	7,615	6,964	92,272	91,727
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	5,832	4,767	77,211	73,544
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	13	13	135	134
Rubber, crude	Lb.	136,733	89,127	1,278,578	1,243,838
Other agricultural commodities					
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES					
		340,636	331,237	3,468,452	3,754,973
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES		950,893	1,069,921	9,487,323	11,053,402

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight. c/ Reported in value only.

Compiled from tables appearing in the "Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report".



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# FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES



# Digest

AUGUST 1956

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

## EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

(See July Digest for fiscal year highlights)

July exports 9 percent ahead this year over last. July shipments are estimated at \$280 million this year as compared with \$256 million last year and \$357 million in June this year. Principal increases this year over last occurred in cotton, wheat, soybean oil, and lard. Major declines were in exports of corn, grain sorghums, tobacco, and cottonseed oil. July was the fifth consecutive month in which exports were above a year earlier.

July cotton shipments were substantially larger than a year ago. The Census Bureau has estimated July shipments at 150 thousand bales. This estimate is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times the total of 61 thousand bales exported a year ago. Increase in exports in the past 5 months over previous months was the result of shipments against CCC sales in January and February.

Wheat shipments continued large. Shipments totaled 44 million bushels this July (based on USDA inspections) compared with 27 million last July. Heavy exports reflect a continuation of the favorable trend that developed in 1955-56. Main factors are the improved economic conditions abroad and expanded surplus disposal programs here.

### Fiscal Year Farm Exports (Official figures)

	1954-55	1955-56	% chg.
	- \$ Mil. -		
Cotton	684	372	-46
Grains	882	1,174	+33
Tobacco	306	379	+24
Veg. oils, oilseeds	302	407	+35
Fruits and vegs.	274	327	+19
Livestock products	461	549	+19
Private relief <u>1/</u>	142	180	+27
Other	94	105	+12
Total incl. cotton	3,145	3,493	+11
Total excl. cotton	2,461	3,121	+27

1/ Mostly CCC donations to U. S. private welfare agencies for overseas needy.

Feed grain exports turned down in July. Both corn and grain sorghum exports this July were about half as large as they were last July. Corn was down from 11.7 million bushels to 7 million; sorghums, from 8.3 million bushels to 4.4 million. Barley exports were practically unchanged, while oats were ahead.

July is the first month since November 1954 that exports of both corn and grain sorghums--two foremost feed grains--were below a year earlier. Exports of feed grains have been at record levels due to the strong demand abroad and to efforts to dispose of U. S. surpluses.

July 1956 tobacco exports were half of unusually large 1955 volume.

Tobacco exports are estimated at 24 million pounds this July compared with 49 million last July. Last year's volume--reflecting a high concentration of Title I (foreign currency) sales--was unusually large. Tobacco exports in July 1954 totaled 29 million pounds.

July exports of fats and oils continued high. Exports of soybean oil and lard in July are estimated considerably above a year ago; cottonseed oil, notably smaller. Exports of tallow were close to last year's level; soybeans, somewhat less. U. S. exports have been favored by decreased output of Mediterranean olive oil and the short Argentine sunflower-seed crop in 1955.

## IMPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Agricultural imports were larger last year. They totaled \$4,080 million in fiscal year 1955-56 compared with \$3,780 million in 1954-55. Until last year, imports had been declining from the 1950-51 record of \$5,147 million.

Major part of rise was in noncompetitive items. Value of complementary, or noncompetitive, products increased by 10 percent over 1954-55 (\$228 million) mainly as the result of higher values for coffee, rubber, and carpet wool. Despite a large gain in the quantity of cocoa beans imported, value was reduced due to lower foreign prices. Lower foreign prices for tea also depressed its import value while quantity increased.

Competitive imports increased only \$73 million. Fiscal year supplementary, or competitive, agricultural imports rose by 5 percent in 1955-56. Largest rise occurred in cane sugar. Most other increases were moderate. Oats declined sharply.

Agricultural share of total imports still falling. Agricultural commodities comprised 34 percent of total imports for consumption last year as compared with 36 percent in 1954-55. This ratio is the smallest in the past 40 years of record.

## SUPPLEMENTARY AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS

Mexico held onto its cattle last year. U. S. cattle imports, excluding breeding stock, declined from 271 thousand head in 1954-55 to 109 thousand last year. Higher level attained year before last was the result of Mexican animals coming in after the border was opened on January 1, 1955. During the past year, imports from Mexico have been smaller owing to the shortage and high prices of beef below the border and to the desire of ranchers in Northern Mexico to enlarge their herds.



# TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

August 31, 1956

Recent trade liberalizations and similar actions expected to broaden foreign markets for U. S. agricultural products:

- ...Norway has liberalized dollar imports of cotton, tobacco, oilseeds, tallow, sausage casings, hides and skins, lemons, grapefruit, raisins, currants, dried prunes, and tomato puree.
- ...The United Kingdom will permit apple imports from Canada and the United States during 1956-57 totaling \$3.5 million (f.o.b.).
- ...Sweden has liberalized imports of flaxseed and crude linseed oil.
- ...The Portuguese import duty on peanut oil has been reduced by 60 percent until October 30, 1956.
- ...The Dominican Republic has lifted restrictions on fresh fruits and vegetables from Georgia, Alabama, and Louisiana. Designed to keep out the Mediterranean fruit fly, embargo now applies only to products grown in Florida or exported through Florida ports.
- ...Fresh apples may be freely imported into Barbados.
- ...The Gold Coast reports it will issue short-term licenses for U. S. meats, milk, and cream.
- ...The Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland recently made its first purchase of U. S. cotton (4,000 bales). Before that, the Federation made its first purchase of U. S. wheat. (These purchases resulted from Dr. Jacob L. Maxton's personal efforts as agricultural attaché prior to his death by accident.)
- ...Ceylon has lifted restrictions on dollar imports of cotton, cereals, skim milk, raw sugar, and specified fats and oils.

\* \* \*

A major change is scheduled in the USDA export program for wheat, leading U. S. agricultural export this past fiscal year. Starting September 4, CCC will not offer wheat grain for export sale. More wheat will move into export directly from commercial stocks. CCC stocks will continue to be available for barter sales and foreign donations.

\* \* \*

Latest report on CCC cotton sales at competitive prices for export this marketing year totaled 3.3 million bales through August 21. New York Cotton Exchange has estimated exports during the first 16 days of August at 114 thousand bales.

USDA also began on August 1 to make equalization payments on exports of cotton textiles and products.

\* \* \*

Efforts to develop a U. S.-produced ghee acceptable to Asian consumers have been successful. CCC has sold 4.6 million pounds of butter for conversion to ghee. The ghee is being shipped to Pakistan and Iran for local currency under P.L. 480.

Another butter product has been perfected--a dry mix made from butter and nonfat dry milk solids which can be used in cake mixes and similar products. Initial exports have gone to Sweden, Switzerland, and Finland.

\* \* \*

Under an agreement between FAS and the Dairy Societies International--utilizing P.L. 480 local currency--the latter will conduct an educational campaign in Thailand to stimulate demand for recombined milk. A new plant is to be built in Bangkok by U. S. and Thai dairy interests.

USDA has entered into a Section 104(a) agreement with the Soybean Council of America to develop and promote exports.

The Section 104(a) marketing development program provides for visits by trade and government officials from abroad. Commodities and countries involved in recent visits: Cotton--Japan, Colombia, France; grains--Japan; tobacco--Japan, Thailand; soybeans--Japan.

Next trade fair in which agricultural products will be exhibited under P.L. 480 Section 104(a): Fourth British Food Fair, London, August 28-September 15. Other dates: Salonika, September 2-23; Zagreb, September 7-20; and Vienna, September 9-16.

P.L. 480 Title I agreements signed in August:

Greece	\$17.2 million	Netherlands	\$0.3 million
Pakistan	\$46.4 million	Taiwan	\$9.8 million

Through June 30, 1956, Title I exports totaled more than 4.4 million metric tons, of which 3.6 million moved out in the past year. Wheat accounted for nearly 70 percent of the 1955-56 tonnage.

\* \* \*

Packaged meat is now being exported in substantial quantities to the United Kingdom from Australia. As U. K. retail stores become better equipped to handle packaged meat, such exports will probably increase.



Cheese imports continued fairly steady. Cheese imports totaled 52 million pounds last year, about the same as in 1954-55. Main suppliers, as usual, were Italy and Switzerland. With controls holding imports of certain specific hard type and other cow's milk cheeses at the prewar level of approximately 20 million pounds, total imports of all types of cheese have remained fairly constant at or near 50 million pounds a year in recent years.

Sheep and goat skins predominated in larger imports of hides and skins. Imports of hides and skins were 144 million pounds last year compared with 122 million in 1954-55. With U. S. output of sheep and goat skins limited, this country relies on imports to meet domestic requirements.

Steady cotton imports reflected controls. Cotton imports totaled 145 thousand bales in 1955-56, somewhat under 1954-55. Imports of all cotton are now under quota; specified staple lengths are limited to annual quotas aggregating 271 thousand 500-pound bales for years beginning August 1 and September 20.

Wheat imports showed marked increase. Imports of wheat grain rose from 5 million bushels in 1954-55 to 9.7 million last year. Largest share of this wheat was classified as unfit for human consumption; most was entered from Canada.

Far less oats were imported last year. Imports of oats have declined sharply in the past 2 years, from 80 million bushels in 1953-54 to less than 3 million in 1955-56. The drop is principally the outcome of much larger supplies and lower prices in this country. The import quota was removed October 1, 1955.

U. S. bought less feeds and fodders abroad. Smaller imports of feeds and fodders last year reflected increased U. S. supplies and smaller U. S. cattle numbers. Moreover, more of the world's available supplies have been moving to countries increasing their livestock numbers. U. S. imports--mainly cake and meal and bran shorts--fell from a value of \$16 million in 1954-55 to \$10 million last year.

U. S. sugar consumption is increasing. Cane sugar imports accounted for most of the dollar gain in supplementary agricultural imports last year. Quantity rose from 3.5 million short tons in 1954-55 to 4.2 million last year. While increased sugar consumption has accounted for an increase in imports over the years, last year's gain was largely due to heavier-than-usual imports in the latter part of calendar year 1954 and in the early part of 1955. With sugar imports governed by calendar year quotas, the calendar year provides the better basis for interpreting trade. In calendar year 1955, sugar imports totaled 3.9 million tons, an amount about in line with the gradual increase in imports in recent years.

Higher U. S. prices attracted more molasses from abroad. Imports of molasses unfit for human consumption (mostly blackstrap) increased from 364 million gallons in 1954-55 to 410 million last year. Last year was the second year of increase. Cuban output was larger, and higher U. S.



prices attracted supplies from countries that are not usual sources. Molasses is used largely for mixing with roughages and formula feeds for livestock.

Tobacco imports continued slow, steady growth. Tobacco leaf imports of 99 million pounds in 1955-56 were slightly greater than in 1954-55. There has been a slow but steady percentage increase in usings of imported leaf in the manufacture of cigarettes. In 1955, about 7 percent of the tobacco used in cigarettes made in the United States consisted of imported leaf; 10 years ago, the ratio was a little over 5 percent.

#### COMPLEMENTARY AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS

More silk was in demand here. Imports of raw silk, continuing to increase, totaled 8.2 million pounds in 1955-56 compared with 7.1 million in 1954-55. Silk has become very popular in the United States for use in fabrics of silk alone and for blending with cotton and synthetic fibers. High U. S. prices have attracted more of the world's exportable output to this market. U. S. imports now account for approximately two-thirds of the world's exportable output.

Carpet wool imports increased. Carpet wool imports last year reflected increased consumption and stock buildup. Volume rose from 162 million pounds in 1954-55 to 204 million pounds in 1955-56. Improvement was mainly in wools not finer than 40's.

Coffee imports were at a peak. Most important development affecting U. S. coffee imports in fiscal year 1955-56 was the increase in domestic inventories from the very low stock position at the start of the year. At the same time, roaster demand returned to the 1953 level. Coffee imports increased from 2,074 million pounds in 1954-55 to 2,898 million in 1955-56, a near-record level.

Firming of foreign cocoa prices speeded imports. Imports of cocoa beans rose from 493 million pounds in 1954-55 to 585 million last year. Imports now are close to levels prevailing 3 and more years ago. With the firming of foreign prices at lower levels in the past year, U. S. cocoa users have been purchasing more. Prices rose to a peak 2 years ago when production was underestimated; consumption, overestimated.

Lower foreign prices helped to sustain tea imports. Tea imports totaled 101 million pounds in 1955-56, slightly above the previous year. Value declined from \$64 million to \$51 million due to lower prices. In 1954-55, a similar situation developed in tea as in coffee: A presumed shortage, both in producing areas and in England, caused prices to rise in that year. In the next year, 1955-56, with the decline in coffee prices and with ample supplies of tea available, tea prices fell.

U. S. consumption of natural rubber declined. Imports of crude rubber declined from 1,397 million pounds in 1954-55 to 1,326 million in 1955-56. Value meanwhile rose from \$351 million to \$453 million. Higher prices-- due to outpacing of world production by increasing consumption abroad-- have caused imports to slacken somewhat, particularly this May and June. Domestic consumption of natural rubber has been declining as industry has used more synthetic relative to natural rubber.



DOMESTIC EXPORTS: June 1955 and 1956 and year beginning July 1 1954-55 and 1955-56 a/

Commodity exported	Unit	June		Value		Quantity		1954-55		1955-56		Year beginning July 1	
		1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1954-55	1955-56	1954-55	1955-56	1954-55	1955-56
		Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars	dollars	dollars
Cheese .....	Lb.	3,745	6,719	1,654	2,496	9,113	38,124	3,821	13,396				
Milk, evaporated .....	Lb.	10,205	12,838	1,532	2,059	142,787	153,707	21,102	23,141				
Milk, whole, dried .....	Lb.	3,111	3,880	1,566	1,859	41,744	47,086	21,217	23,269				
Nonfat dry milk solids .....	Lb.	33,476	29,336	3,956	4,060	177,651	236,766	18,255	26,718				
Eggs, in the shell .....	Doz.	3,271	3,092	1,307	1,366	52,030	49,263	18,211	21,220				
Pork and veal, total b/ .....	Lb.	2,188	6,089	555	2,061	42,742	52,156	11,449	14,562				
Pork, total b/ .....	Lb.	5,491	5,277	1,318	1,504	63,011	71,080	17,069	17,543				
Lard, incl. shortenings, (animal) .....	Lb.	32,391	44,762	4,491	5,758	516,716	638,249	80,790	81,025				
Tallow, edible and inedible .....	Lb.	101,197	107,798	8,031	9,050	1,091,520	1,329,687	87,346	110,051				
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintners (480 lb.) ..	Bale	293	247	55,773	39,286	3,761	2,240	684,344	371,705				
Apples, fresh .....	Lb.	2,882	2,953	268	218	94,463	102,105	7,794	8,173				
Oranges and tangerines .....	Lb.	66,845	84,735	3,502	5,366	632,639	833,445	34,526	49,919				
Prunes, dried .....	Lb.	3,097	5,427	529	916	76,598	73,650	13,316	13,338				
Raisins and currants .....	Lb.	4,051	11,420	453	1,392	83,445	152,220	8,744	16,730				
Fruits, canned * .....	Lb.	15,685	23,138	2,535	3,492	171,212	232,063	26,764	36,196				
Fruit juices * .....	Gal.	1,231	1,928	1,519	2,723	12,735	14,742	14,409	20,435				
Barley, grain (48 lb.) .....	Bu.	5,140	10,190	5,453	11,440	39,661	97,811	49,324	102,835				
Corn, grain (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	5,532	9,205	8,940	15,120	76,656	119,303	129,950	181,702				
Grain sorghums (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	11,537	4,914	11,657	5,781	35,044	72,723	38,554	77,801				
Rice, milled, excludes paddy .....	Lb.	75,211	100,375	5,310	7,568	844,253	1,082,581	64,092	80,895				
Wheat, grain (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	22,382	44,378	40,286	73,613	227,211	290,203	405,205	492,194				
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.) ....	Bag	1,894	2,217	8,022	9,030	19,884	21,564	86,990	91,466				
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	2,703	3,704	7,453	11,096	51,087	70,276	146,847	177,544				
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	3,063	41,292	454	6,748	36,188	371,340	5,277	58,201				
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	62,550	70,531	6,788	11,492	625,005	644,529	75,389	96,199				
Tobacco, flue-cured .....	Lb.	20,111	24,006	13,781	14,452	380,189	489,738	260,624	326,491				
Tobacco, leaf, other * .....	Lb.	5,295	6,190	3,017	4,132	74,409	79,746	43,245	49,528				
Beans, dried .....	Lb.	11,419	30,224	969	1,721	162,616	192,131	13,116	13,482				
Peas, dried (incl. cowpeas & chickpeas) ..	Lb.	1,361	1,517	116	102	129,246	42,148	9,523	3,677				
Potatoes, white .....	Lb.	53,285	48,406	1,410	2,199	427,360	375,549	10,684	10,680				
Vegetables, canned .....	Lb.	15,907	13,601	2,640	2,037	91,719	100,149	12,393	13,459				
Food exported for relief, etc. ....				23,365	25,492			142,291	179,521				
Other agricultural commodities .....				48,345	70,908			582,309	689,633				
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL .....				278,995	356,557			3,144,970	3,492,729				
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES .....				1,309,542	1,673,645			14,926,798	16,846,960				

a/ Preliminary.

b/ Product weight.

\*Composition of these groups includes only those classes which are separately classified in the Bureau of the Census 1956 reporting schedule.  
Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): June 1955 and 1956 and year beginning July 1- 1954-55 and 1955-56 a/

Commodity imported	Unit:	June		Value		Quantity		Year beginning July		Value	
		Quantity		Value		Quantity		Value		Value	
		1955	1956	1955	1956	1954-55	1955-56	1954-55	1955-56	1954-55	1955-56
SUPPLEMENTARY											
Cattle, dutiable	No.	Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars	Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars	dollars	dollars
Cheese	Lb.	4,453	3,762	1,028	613	271	109	22,606	22,606	1,000	1,000
Hides and skins	Lb.	12,879	14,362	2,160	1,776	51,289	52,022	25,994	25,994	26,644	26,644
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	13,197	8,618	5,163	6,414	121,725	144,279	50,550	50,550	62,941	62,941
Pork, total b/	Lb.	14,319	13,099	3,968	2,170	99,948	114,326	29,851	29,851	33,091	33,091
Wool, unmd., excl. free, etc.	Lb.	15,077	11,460	8,801	8,949	167,543	159,125	111,607	111,607	106,819	106,819
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale:	9	4	12,180	8,699	177,980	187,370	149,476	149,476	148,706	148,706
Jute and jute butts, unmd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	5	4	1,910	907	149	145	30,641	30,641	28,110	28,110
Olives in brine	Gal.	1,512	873	1,462	820	59	76	13,876	13,876	15,105	15,105
Pineapples, canned, prep. or preserved	Lb.	8,923	12,004	2,323	1,654	12,646	13,700	20,853	20,853	23,534	23,534
Pineapple juice	Gal.	742	1,495	281	1,446	69,454	85,921	8,048	8,048	9,917	9,917
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	1,110	2,938	1,595	4,033	22,237	25,818	31,047	31,047	34,503	34,503
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Bu.	668	67	604	69	19,584	2,850	17,075	17,075	6,143	6,143
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	1,467	1,593	2,440	2,436	4,962	9,746	9,216	9,216	14,857	14,857
Feeds and fodders	Bu.	c/	c/	1,335	739	c/	c/	15,953	15,953	10,449	10,449
Nuts and preparations	Lb.	61,048	52,619	9,053	3,964	671,876	668,625	63,451	63,451	67,531	67,531
Copra	Lb.	44,342	37,227	4,191	3,359	512,676	452,480	47,470	47,470	42,343	42,343
Oils, fats, waxes, vegetable expressed	Lb.	c/	c/	5,289	6,632	c/	c/	76,734	76,734	72,167	72,167
Seeds, field and garden	Lb.	342	416	785	503	3,483	4,186	15,299	15,299	17,910	17,910
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Ton	64,280	55,197	37,399	44,180	364,222	409,646	374,831	374,831	440,524	440,524
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	8,696	6,519	6,262	5,769	82,335	84,791	33,185	33,185	39,547	39,547
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	1,294	998	5,757	4,428	15,699	14,272	56,434	56,434	58,502	58,502
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	82	72	1,859	1,429	86,894	82,145	22,861	22,861	20,571	20,571
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.			12	8			5,525	5,525	5,606	5,606
Other supplementary	Lb.			20,658	21,336			274,065	274,065	233,444	233,444
Total supplementary	Lb.			137,586	132,882			1,508,195	1,508,195	1,581,128	1,581,128
COMPLEMENTARY											
Silk, raw	Lb.	366	589	1,532	2,490	7,117	8,163	30,597	30,597	34,021	34,021
Wool, unmd., free in bond	Lb.	17,365	13,362	10,572	8,261	162,377	203,554	91,314	91,314	119,837	119,837
Bananas	Bunch:	4,352	4,295	5,952	6,295	47,015	47,242	64,441	64,441	68,949	68,949
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	179,306	237,937	90,136	125,656	2,074,359	2,898,206	1,268,498	1,268,498	1,450,796	1,450,796
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	44,149	49,991	15,579	11,568	492,929	584,552	231,898	231,898	166,723	166,723
Tea	Lb.	4,366	9,728	2,448	4,831	96,638	101,455	63,618	63,618	50,985	50,985
Spices, (complementary)	Lb.	7,141	5,786	2,748	2,223	84,352	79,330	34,830	34,830	30,174	30,174
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	11	6	1,820	959	146	140	25,199	25,199	22,729	22,729
Rubber, crude	Lb.	118,357	82,193	34,024	23,108	1,396,934	1,326,031	351,116	351,116	453,368	453,368
Other complementary	Lb.			8,752	7,131			109,893	109,893	101,666	101,666
Total complementary	Lb.			173,563	192,522			2,271,409	2,271,409	2,499,248	2,499,248
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES	Lb.			311,149	325,404			3,779,604	3,779,604	4,080,376	4,080,376
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES	Lb.			940,313	1,027,391			10,427,636	10,427,636	12,080,792	12,080,792

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight. c/ Reported in value only.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

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Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.



# FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES

# Digest

SEPTEMBER 1956

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

## EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

July-August exports this year nearly one-fourth ahead of last year. Agricultural export value these 2 months in 1956 is estimated at \$585 million, 22 percent ahead of actual shipment value of \$481 million a year ago. Most striking shifts from 1955: Much larger exports of cotton, wheat, rice, and soybean oil; much smaller shipments of tobacco. Tobacco shipments this year were not expected to equal the unusually large volume of a year ago.

August export value two-fifths larger than a year ago. Following an 8-percent increase in exports this July over a year earlier (from \$256 million to \$277 million), shipments this August are estimated to have totaled \$310 million, 37 percent larger than the \$225 million export value last August, when much less cotton, wheat, and soybean oil moved abroad.

Last year's strong drive continuing into the new fiscal year. Agricultural exports normally run low during the summer, but last fiscal year's strong export drive which reached a climax in the final (April-June) quarter spilled over into 1956-57. April-June agricultural exports totaled \$1,030 million in 1955-56 compared with \$717 million in 1954-55. The \$313 million gain accounted for nearly the whole year's increase. Wheat accounted for one-third of April-June increase; feedgrains, tobacco, soybeans, soybean oil, cotton, oranges, and tallow for most of the remainder.

### U. S. Farm Exports

	July-August		%
	1955	1956	chg.
	- \$ Mil. -		
Cotton	23	50	+117
Grains	193	245	+27
Tobacco	67	40	-40
Veg. oils, oilseeds	50	55	+10
Fruits and vgs.	49	60	+22
Livestock products	75	90	+20
Private relief <sup>1/</sup>	15	30	+100
Other	9	15	+67
Total	481	585	+22

<sup>1/</sup> Mostly CCC donations to U. S. private welfare agencies for overseas needy.

Foreign market factors still exceptionally favorable. Stronger foreign demand for U. S. agricultural products

these past 2 years has reflected the generally greater economic activity abroad, rising populations, more liberal import policies, increased dollar receipts, and sizable supply shortages. The fact that more and more people seek to become increasingly better fed, better clothed, and better housed is an important factor in maintaining and expanding U. S. farm exports.

Expanded Government programs aiding exports. Agricultural exports moving out under Government export programs accounted for about 25 percent of exports in 1953-54, before the newer programs were underway. Subsequently, the program share rose to 30 percent in 1954-55 and to nearly 40 percent in 1955-56. Exports outside of programs have remained fairly steady; however, excluding cotton, last year's nonprogram total increased by \$200 million. While the newer programs--sales for foreign currency and barter--have moved upward, direct foreign aid grants and loans have been declining in importance. For the most part, foreign customers now are paying for their purchases even though they have to use their own currency.

### COTTON

Cotton exports now three times volume of a year ago. August exports of cotton are estimated from trade sources at 235 thousand 480-pound bales this year contrasted with actual shipments of 63 thousand bales last year. July shipments also were well above a year ago. Thus, the 375-thousand bale total for July and August this year, compared with 124 thousand bales a year ago, represents a favorable beginning for cotton exports this fiscal year. Last year, cotton exports lagged because U. S. cotton prices were not competitive until the 1 million bales of 15/16" and shorter staple cotton were offered after January 1, 1956. Sales of all qualities of CCC cotton at competitive bid price started in April 1956 and exceeded 3 million bales by July 31; but, under terms of sale, shipments were not permitted until after July 31. Foreign demand for U. S. cotton is strong inasmuch as importing countries had allowed their stocks to run low in anticipation of the cheaper U. S. cotton and supplies available from other exporting countries are practically exhausted until new crops are picked.

### TOBACCO

Tobacco exports this fiscal year at lower level. July-August tobacco exports are estimated at 63 million pounds this year compared with 93 million pounds in 1955. Reduction is accounted for by several factors: Last fiscal year's sales under P.L. 480 helped rebuild stocks in several important outlets. This year's U. S. flue-cured crop--about one-seventh smaller than last year's--offers only limited selections of grades. At the same time, foreign crops are larger this year. Moreover, some countries now are worse off dollarwise. Several "problem" markets appear to be less accessible this year, especially the Republic of the Philippines which has taken steps to restrict imports of U. S. leaf.

### GRAINS

Heavy wheat export volume maintained. July-August exports of wheat and wheat flour are estimated (partly from USDA inspections) at 86 million



# TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

September 28, 1956

Indications so far are that this fiscal year will be one of the best for U. S. agricultural exports. January-June exports in 1956 totaled 19 percent ahead of 1955; July-August exports were 22 percent ahead. At the present rate, this fiscal year's total could reach \$4 billion.

Despite this high level, many opportunities still exist for increased trade, for the progress that has been made in U. S. agricultural exports is part of a general increase in world trade. The U. S. share of world trade in agricultural products like those produced in the United States was 16 percent in 1955, only slightly above 1954. The U. S. shares of such products entering our 5 best markets in 1955 were:

Japan	31%	Canada	50%	West Germany	14%
United Kingdom	10%	Netherlands	36%		

Further foreign relaxation of trade restrictions involving U. S. agricultural exports:

Sweden: Rice flour, flaxseed, linseed oil, some meat products, corn, oilcake, other feedstuffs, soybeans, salted horsemeat, and certain other meats.

West Germany: Some dried fruits, tree nuts, fruit pulp, canned vegetables, and fatback.

Denmark: Dried prunes, apricots, peaches, dates, and figs.

Norway: Canned apricots, asparagus, peaches, and pineapple.

Ecuador: Some fresh and canned foodstuffs.

Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland: Wheat.

India: Fruits and nuts.

Two steps were taken in September to accelerate short-term financing for exports of surplus commodities:

...USDA eased its export credit sales program announced last February. Exporters are no longer required to use lines of credit established with CCC; thus they have greater negotiating freedom with foreign importers. As of September 10, credit sales totaled \$8.6 million (cotton, wheat, and tobacco).

...The Export-Import Bank announced its readiness to extend 6- to 12-month credits to prospective overseas buyers of 15 products when adequate credit is not available from usual commercial sources.

The Export-Import Bank has extended a \$60 million credit to finance shipments of U. S. cotton to Japan this year.

With 534 thousand bales of cotton sold during September, CCC sales at competitive bid under the 1956-57 program totaled 3.8 million running bales. This is equivalent to 4 million 480-pound bales, almost double fiscal 1956 exports.

The International Wheat Agreement accounted for 123 million or 36 percent of the 341 million bushels of U. S. wheat exported in fiscal year 1956. To move the IWA wheat, CCC paid exporters an average differential of 72.7 cents a bushel--a total of \$90 million.

Sales of CCC-owned butter for special uses at prices ranging from 25 to 35 cents a pound were discontinued September 12 because of dwindling inventories (now less than 1 million pounds). Any further sales for these uses will be made at the general price of 39 cents.

\* \* \*

P.L. 480 Title I notes:

- ...The \$56 million worth of wheat and \$26 million worth of rice just authorized for purchase by India will give a big boost to U. S. exports this year. First shipment of wheat is about ready. Agreement--largest to date--is for \$360 million (market value), including ocean freight. Much cotton is also included. All commodities except rice are to go out over a 3-year period; the rice, in 1956-57.
- ...With the Indian agreement, program total now is about \$2.2 billion (CCC value), leaving \$800 million for additional agreements through June 30, 1957, expiration date for new agreements.
- ...Officials of the Japanese soybean industry have been observing U. S. production and marketing under the Section 104(a) market development program. Officials of Finland's tobacco industry are beginning a similar study. Program to make more and better dairy products available in Colombia is getting started.

\* \* \*

Public hearings have been held this month by the special Subcommittee on Customs, Tariffs, and Reciprocal Trade Agreements set up by the House Committee on Ways and Means. For the benefit of persons who wish to submit written material, record will be kept open until October 15 in Room 1102, New House Office Building, Washington 25, D. C.

By Presidential Proclamation, 2,202,740 pounds of shelled large size Virginia-type peanuts were imported August 30-September 10 on payment of a 7-cent fee in addition to duty. These imports were in addition to the established annual quota of 1,709,000 pounds which was filled August 1, the first day of the 1956-57 quota year.



bushels this year compared with actual shipments of 52 million bushels last year. It appears that France accounted for about one-third of the gain; and Belgium, India, Chile, Pakistan, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Brazil, and Korea, for most of the remainder. The large share attributed to France reflects the damage last winter to its wheat crop. Several countries took more U. S. wheat because of favorable terms available under Government export programs. Outlook for the current year's European wheat harvest is for smaller output and lower quality in a number of countries owing to unfavorable weather and late season. Inclement weather has also increased the Soviet Union's harvesting difficulties.

Feedgrain shipments lagging this year. July-August feedgrain exports are estimated at 113 thousand short tons this year compared with 154 thousand tons last year. Exports of oats were up by 4 million bushels, but other feedgrains declined: Barley, by 6 million bushels; corn, by 8 million; and sorghums, by 4 million. Last year exports were at record levels due to increased foreign demand and expanded U. S. surplus disposal efforts. However, Argentina has a larger supply this year, and its May-July exports of corn totaled 14.4 million bushels this year, much more than the 4.3 million last year. Argentine exports for the 1956-57 season (April-March) are expected to be much larger than the 21 million bushels exported in 1955-56

Rye exports showing considerable expansion. August USDA rye inspections were 1.5 million bushels compared with exports of 354 thousand bushels in August 1955 and 816 thousand bushels in July 1956. July-August total is estimated at 2.3 million bushels this year contrasted with just about three-quarters of a million bushels last year. Expansion in July was due to larger shipments to the Netherlands, and this is probably also the case in August.

P.L. 480 expanding rice exports to Pakistan and Indonesia. A cargo count of vessels carrying rice indicates that August rice exports were at least as large and probably larger than July exports of 171 million pounds. July-August total is estimated at 370 million pounds this year compared with 178 million last year. July's shipments included 96 million pounds to Pakistan and 52 million to Indonesia under the P.L. 480 foreign currency sales program. With the large shipments made to Pakistan and Indonesia and others slated for India and other outlets, practically all the rice now owned by CCC has recently been committed or programmed.

#### FATS, OILS AND OILSEEDS

Major food fat exports nearly 20 percent ahead this year. July-August exports of food fats and oils are estimated at 310 million pounds this year, up 19 percent compared with actual exports of 261 million last year. Soybeans and cottonseed oil were behind; soybean oil and lard, ahead. Data for individual items are given below:

	July-August 1955 (Actual)	July-August 1956 (Estimated)
	- - <u>Million units</u> - -	
Soybeans (bu.)	7.9	5
Soybean oil (lb.)	16.0	130
Cottonseed oil (lb.)	100.3	75
Lard (lb.)	65.6	80

Short foreign supplies were supplemented by U. S. exports made possible to a large extent by the P.L. 480 foreign currency sales program.

Other countries still eager to buy U. S. tallow. Tallow exports, estimated at 120 million pounds this August, are still running ahead of a year ago, when exports were 109 million pounds. July-August total is estimated at 230 million pounds this year compared with actual exports of 207 million pounds last year. With the increasing use of synthetic detergents in the United States and with the steady growth in the U. S. livestock industry, larger amounts of tallow have become available for export at competitive prices.

#### I M P O R T     H I G H L I G H T S

July import value this year well above last. July agricultural imports totaled \$339 million this year compared with \$300 million in 1955. Of the \$39 million increase, \$35 million was due to larger imports of complementary, or noncompetitive, products (mainly coffee); and \$4 million, to supplementary, or competitive, products (mainly barley and cane sugar). Exclusive of coffee, July agricultural imports were the same this year as last.

Most imports smaller this July. Analysis of 33 major imports shows that 14 of 24 competitive items and 5 of 9 noncompetitive items were down this year from last. Competitive products declining were mainly meat, apparel wool, cotton, oats, copra, and molasses; noncompetitive products declining, principally carpet wool and crude rubber.

August coffee arrivals slower. August 1956 coffee arrivals totaled 188 million pounds (at the rate of 132,276 pounds a bag) about the same as actual imports a year ago. August arrivals were considerably less than July imports of 273 million pounds and ended a steady rise since April. If all August arrivals are reported as imports for consumption, monthly coffee volume this year will have exceeded 1955 levels in every month since January. Heavier imports have reflected increased roastings and a slight gain in consumption.

Barley imports continue large. Larger imports of barley grain this July than a year ago continued a trend that started in April. July-August imports are estimated at 5 million bushels this year, considerably higher than last year when imports were abnormally low.



DOMESTIC EXPORTS: July 1955 and 1956 a/

Commodity exported	Unit	July			
		Quantity		Value	
		1955	1956	1955	1956
				1,000	1,000
		Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars
Cheese .....	Lb.	611	2,005	262	659
Milk, evaporated .....	Lb.	12,419	14,251	1,900	2,220
Milk, whole, dried .....	Lb.	3,901	2,854	1,736	1,443
Nonfat dry milk solids .....	Lb.	17,066	34,993	2,097	3,534
Eggs, in the shell .....	Doz.	4,374	2,509	1,729	1,071
Beef and veal, total b/ .....	Lb.	2,852	6,500	795	2,122
Pork, total b/ .....	Lb.	4,231	4,602	1,183	1,370
Lard, incl. shortenings, (animal) .....	Lb.	29,616	42,249	3,970	5,344
Tallow, edible and inedible .....	Lb.	98,412	110,689	7,554	9,011
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.)	Pale	61	140	11,263	19,365
Apples, fresh .....	Lb.	4,733	4,770	431	374
Oranges and tangerines .....	Lb.	90,593	58,317	4,582	3,301
Prunes, dried .....	Lb.	3,201	6,009	508	1,073
Raisins and currants .....	Lb.	5,784	11,442	657	1,444
Fruits, canned* .....	Lb.	10,456	13,141	1,730	2,084
Fruit juices* .....	Gal.	1,128	1,311	1,485	1,973
Barley, grain (48 lb.) .....	Bu.	8,654	8,671	9,124	10,149
Corn, grain (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	11,688	6,540	19,255	10,696
Grain sorghums (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	8,394	4,081	8,460	4,698
Rice, milled, excludes paddy .....	Lb.	135,800	170,602	9,052	12,761
Wheat, grain (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	23,376	37,138	39,428	61,509
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.) ...	Bag	1,592	1,603	6,984	6,605
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.) ....	Bu.	4,435	3,709	11,738	10,668
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	6,196	57,821	1,022	9,381
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	75,109	50,718	11,429	8,287
Tobacco, flue-cured .....	Lb.	43,528	16,491	30,228	11,077
Tobacco, leaf, other* .....	Lb.	6,255	6,054	4,310	4,234
Beans, dried .....	Lb.	17,983	40,797	1,481	2,163
Peas, dried (incl. cowpeas & chickpeas) .	Lb.	1,706	1,709	150	116
Potatoes, white .....	Lb.	24,282	37,599	480	2,078
Vegetables, canned .....	Lb.	11,387	6,846	1,603	1,245
Food exported for relief, etc. ....				9,994	12,529
Other agricultural commodities .....				49,302	52,564
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL .....				255,922	277,148
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES .....				1,257,912	1,600,901

a/ Preliminary.

b/ Product weight.

\*Composition of these groups includes only those classes which are separately classified in the Bureau of the Census 1956 reporting Schedule G.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): July 1955 and 1956 a/

Commodity imported	Unit	July			
		Quantity		Value	
		1955	1956	1955	1956
SUPPLEMENTARY				1,000	1,000
		Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars
Cattle, dutiable	No.	5	4	802	580
Cheese	Lb.	2,530	3,168	1,333	1,679
Hides and skins	Lb.	12,214	11,218	4,994	4,782
Beef and veal, total <u>b/</u>	Lb.	12,070	9,920	3,611	2,607
Pork, total <u>b/</u>	Lb.	15,557	12,626	10,219	8,840
Wool, unmd., excl. free, etc.	Lb.	13,984	11,448	11,255	9,671
Cotton, unmd., excl. lint (480 lb.)	Bale	10	2	2,185	324
Jute & jute butts, unmd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	3	3	766	708
Olives in brine	Gal.	833	932	1,409	1,728
Pineapples, canned, prepared or pres.	Lb.	12,580	9,916	1,398	1,161
Pineapple juice	Gal.	676	328	251	121
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	497	3,177	696	4,244
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Bu.	589	122	509	119
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	378	287	583	424
Feeds and fodders	c/			829	1,007
Nuts and preparations	c/			9,621	4,245
Copra	Lb.	56,231	44,700	3,577	2,818
Oils, fats, waxes, veg. expressed	Lb.	38,077	45,623	5,154	7,798
Seeds, field and garden	c/			650	963
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Ton	375	405	40,308	42,695
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	30,194	25,920	2,794	2,644
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	6,113	7,593	4,132	5,542
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	1,379	1,057	1,728	1,600
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	675	493	41	28
Other supplementary				18,007	24,782
Total supplementary				126,852	131,110
COMPLEMENTARY					
Silk, raw	Lb.	255	499	1,088	2,101
Wool, unmd., free in bond	Lb.	17,998	13,926	10,836	8,499
Bananas	Bunch	3,866	3,801	5,294	5,707
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	204,226	273,377	102,375	140,530
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	26,060	46,032	8,592	10,802
Tea	Lb.	7,490	7,564	3,369	3,509
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	8,125	7,615	2,907	3,126
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	11	8	1,814	1,288
Rubber, crude	Lb.	97,722	92,277	28,509	24,704
Other complementary				8,024	7,728
Total complementary				172,808	207,994
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES				299,660	339,104
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				878,802	1,044,944

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight. c/ Reported in value only.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

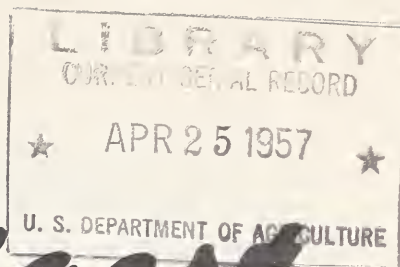


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# FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES



# Digest

OCTOBER 1956

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

## EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

July-September exports this year were one-third ahead of last year. July-September agricultural exports are estimated at \$990 million this year, 33 percent larger than a year earlier when actual shipments totaled \$742 million. Cotton shipments, showing the greatest gain, are estimated more than 3 times larger in value. Other increases: Grains and feeds, 26 percent; fruits and vegetables, 20 percent; livestock products, 16 percent; vegetable oils and oilseeds, 10 percent; and private welfare shipments, 46 percent. Value of tobacco exports, on the other hand, is estimated 24 percent less. As a result of continued expansion of exports in the July-September quarter, the total for the half year ending in September stands at \$2,020 million this year compared with \$1,459 million a year earlier, a gain of 38 percent.

September shipments totaled \$380 million. Agricultural exports in the month of September this year amounted to \$380 million based on estimates for leading products, 46 percent larger than actual exports of \$261 million in September 1955. Main increases were in cotton and grains. Tobacco exports were down slightly.

Foreign demand continued exceptionally favorable. Stronger foreign demand for U. S. agricultural products has reflected the generally greater economic activity abroad, rising populations, more liberal import policies, increased dollar receipts, and sizable supply shortages.

Expanded Government programs also stimulated exports. Agricultural exports moving out under Government export programs accounted for over 40 percent of the total in 1955-56. Complete data are not available for the July-September quarter. Barter exports, totaling \$130 million, accounted for 13 percent of the quarter's exports. Section 416 foreign welfare shipments are estimated at 4 percent of the quarter total. July-August Title I shipments--totaling \$101 million--were 16 percent of the 2-month export total.

## COTTON

Cotton exports are seen as year's highlight. September cotton exports are estimated by FAS to be at least around 700 thousand 480-lb. bales and may

have been larger judging by the heavy volume of CCC sales at competitive prices under the current export sales program. Using the above estimate for September, the July-September total is estimated at 1,280 thousand bales this year contrasted with actual shipments of 247 thousand bales last year. CCC sales totaled 4.6 million running bales (4.8 million 480-lb. bales) on October 16, 1956. USDA estimates that exports this marketing year will be considerably more than double last year's total. Trade estimates run even higher. Foreign demand for U. S. cotton is strong inasmuch as importing countries had allowed their stocks to run low in anticipation of lower priced U. S. cotton, and supplies available from other exporting countries are practically exhausted until new crops come onto the market.

### TOBACCO

Smaller tobacco exports are in sight this year. July-September tobacco exports are estimated at 140 million pounds this fiscal year compared with 179 million in 1954-55. Exports this year may total somewhat less than last year. Heavy U. S. export volume last year helped to rebuild stocks in several major outlets. Other factors include the smaller U. S. crop and larger foreign output.

### GRAINS

Wheat exports this past quarter totaled 69 percent ahead of a year earlier. September wheat and wheat flour exports are estimated from USDA inspections at 34 million bushels this year, double the 17 million bushels exported last year. For the July-September quarter, exports totaled 118 million bushels this year as against 70 million last year, a gain of 69 percent. Improvement is largely the result of unfavorable crops in Europe last winter. Heavy demand for U. S. wheat is expected to continue throughout the year in view of the poor outlook for the current European harvest.

Less demand exists abroad for U. S. feed grains this year. July-September feed grain shipments are estimated from USDA inspections at 1.6 million

### Fiscal Year Agricultural Exports

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>July-September</u>		<u>Percentage change</u>
	<u>1954-55</u>	<u>1955-56</u>	
	<u>- \$ million -</u>		
Cotton	44	190	+332
Grains and feeds	277	350	+ 26
Tobacco	125	95	- 24
Vegetable oils and oilseeds	73	80	+ 10
Fruits and vegetables	71	85	+ 20
Livestock products	112	130	+ 16
Private relief <u>1/</u>	24	35	+ 46
Other	<u>16</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>+ 56</u>
Total	742	990	+ 33

1/ Mostly CCC donations to U. S. private welfare agencies for overseas needy.



# TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

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October 31, 1956

Business representatives interested in agricultural exports will meet in New York City, November 8-9. Meeting is sponsored jointly by Commodity Stabilization Service and Foreign Agricultural Service.

Existing Government programs and facilities will be discussed, with emphasis on financing and credit arrangements under CCC's export credit program and new stepped-up assistance in financing exports of surplus agricultural commodities recently announced by the Export-Import Bank.

Other meetings will be held in Boston, Philadelphia, New Orleans, Chicago, San Francisco, and Portland, Oregon. For further information, write to Office of the General Sales Manager, Commodity Stabilization Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

Recent trade liberalizations and other actions abroad easing foreign takings of U. S. agricultural products:

...Austria: Cotton; dried fruits; fresh oranges; tree nuts; canned pineapples, grapefruit, and peaches; grapefruit and pineapple juices and mixtures; all vegetable juices except tomato; rice; hops; most oilcakes; hides and skins; wool; and wool grease.

...West Germany: Canned fruit.

## P. L. 480 Title I notes:

...Two more agreements were signed this month:

(1) Spain: \$49.6 million, including ocean transportation.  
Main items: Vegetable oils and beef.

(2) Finland: \$1.7 million, including ocean transportation.  
Only feed grains and wheat are included.

...Total agreements number 71. CCC cost of commodities (including ocean transportation): \$2.3 billion. Market value: \$1.4 billion, as follows:

	<u>\$ million</u>		<u>\$ million</u>
Wheat	492	Tobacco	95
Cotton	343	Feed grains	78
Fats and oils	205	Dairy products	29
Rice	113	Other	44

...Thirty countries are involved: 7 in Latin America, 12 in Western Europe, 9 in the Far East, and 2 in the Middle East.

...Actual shipments totaled \$606 million through August.

...First of 12 cargoes of wheat for India departed from Portland, Oregon at the end of September. A total of 130 million bushels is scheduled to go to India over the next 3 years. Importance of this agreement is indicated by comparison with total U. S. wheat exports, which were 344 million bushels in fiscal year 1956.

...French tobacco and Italian flour and macaroni specialists are studying U. S. marketing techniques under Section 104(a) market development projects. FAS, in cooperation with trade groups, had 38 market development projects underway as of October 1.

\* \* \*

CCC has reduced holdings of additional surplus commodities so much that it has had to suspend sales:

...Dried beans: Commitments since January 1 total 3 1/2 million bags, three-fourths for export.

...Butter: CCC inventory is committed. Recent purchases have been small and may remain at low levels during the fall months of seasonally low production. Foreign donations were discontinued last spring; and sales at reduced prices for special commercial uses, last month.

\* \* \*

The Export-Import Bank on October 10 authorized a loan of \$5 million to Mexico for the purchase of U. S. beef and dairy cattle. The cattle, to be purchased from U. S. livestock owners in drought areas, will be used to upgrade Mexican herds. Experienced U. S. cattlemen will be assigned as guides and counselors to Mexican purchasing missions expected to arrive in the United States this month.

\* \* \*

July 1, 1956 grain stocks in the 4 principal exporting countries set a new record. Total of 128 million short tons for the United States, Canada, Argentina, and Australia exceeded the previous record in 1955 by 9 million tons. Each country had somewhat larger stocks.

\* \* \*

Tariff Commission public hearings scheduled under Section 22 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, as amended, to consider necessity for import controls: October 30: Dried figs and fig paste; November 1: Dates.

\* \* \*

FAS has issued 2 annual reports on agricultural policies in neighbor nations: Canada (FATP-31-56) and Mexico (FATP-33-56).

\* \* \*



short tons this fiscal year compared with 2.3 million tons last year. Last year feed grain exports rose to a record level. Only oat exports were up this past quarter; shipments of corn, grain sorghums, and barley were well under last year's levels. Two factors underly the shift: Europe has replanted damaged wheat acreage with feed grains, and Argentina is shipping much more corn this year.

Rice shipment total this year is nearly double a year earlier. July-September milled rice exports (excluding rough rice) are estimated at 625 million pounds this year compared with 328 million last year, a gain of 90 percent. Expanded exports have resulted mainly from Title I sales to Indonesia and Pakistan. August exports were at a record high, 279 million pounds (including rough rice).

#### VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS

Less soybeans but more soybean oil was exported. Although July-September exports of soybeans this year are estimated at about half of last year's 12 million bushels, there has been a many-fold increase in oil shipments. July-September oil export estimate is over 200 million pounds this year contrasted with but 18 million pounds last year. In terms of oil, combined exports of beans and oil amounted to 275 million pounds this year, 86 percent ahead of the 149 million pounds exported last year. Foreign demand for U. S. fats and oils continues strong due to a high level of economic activity abroad as well as to limited supplies from Argentina and a short 1955 olive crop in the Mediterranean area.

Cottonseed oil exports smaller this year. Cottonseed oil exports are estimated at 110 million pounds this July-September compared with 150 million pounds during the same period a year ago.

#### ANIMAL FATS

Lard exports continued to gain. With a larger estimate for September lard exports this year than last, July-September volume totaled 120 million pounds this year compared with 96 million last year. The continuing strong foreign demand for food fats has expanded lard exports along with those of vegetable oils.

Heavy tallow exports reflected smaller domestic use. July-September tallow exports are estimated at 345 million pounds this year compared with 302 million last year. Monthly shipments have been running above 100 million pounds for the past 9 months. With tallow production climbing and use declining in the United States, more tallow has become available for export at competitive prices.

#### I M P O R T     H I G H L I G H T S

Both competitive and noncompetitive products share in agricultural import gain. July-August agricultural imports totaled \$642 million this year, 4 percent larger than last year. Imports of supplementary, or competitive,

products rose from \$254 million to \$270 million, reflecting value increases for barley, oats, cane sugar, tobacco, fats and oils, and hides and skins partly offset by reductions in meat, apparel wool, cotton, and nuts. Complementary, or noncompetitive, imports rose from \$360 million to \$372 million, reflecting value increases for coffee and silk partly offset by reductions in natural rubber, cocoa beans and carpet wool.

Barley imports continued larger in August. Larger barley imports in August this year over last continued a trend that started last April. July-August total of 5.3 million bushels this year compared with 0.6 million a year earlier. Last year's barley imports were abnormally low.

July-September coffee imports registered 25-percent gain this year over last. September coffee arrivals totaled 265 million pounds this year compared with actual imports of 195 million pounds last year. For the July-September quarter, this year's total of 730 million pounds was one-fourth larger than the 586 million pounds imported a year earlier. Heavier imports have reflected increased consumption, roastings, and stock buildup in the United States.

Home demand for cacao beans weakening. August arrivals of cacao beans were 27 million pounds this year compared with actual imports of 37 million pounds a year earlier. This is the second month since December in which cacao bean imports have been less than a year earlier. July-September total this year is estimated at slightly less than last year's 110 million pounds. Supplies are generally abundant here and abroad, and the weaker import demand probably reflects anticipation of a larger 1956-57 crop soon to be harvested.



DOMESTIC EXPORTS: August 1955 and 1956 and July-August 1955 and 1956 a/

Commodity exported	Unit:	August				July-August			
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
		Thousands	dollars	Thousands	dollars	Thousands	dollars	Thousands	dollars
Cheese .....	Lb.	2,614	1,830	3,225	535	3,835	1,000	1,000	1,000
Milk, evaporated .....	Lb.	9,745	12,771	22,164	2,018	27,022	3,355	3,355	4,238
Milk, whole, dried .....	Lb.	4,588	3,774	8,489	1,843	6,628	4,141	4,141	3,286
Nonfat dry milk solids .....	Lb.	17,371	16,898	34,437	1,611	51,891	3,842	5,146	2,889
Eggs, in the shell .....	Doz.	5,248	4,686	9,622	1,818	7,195	3,684	2,883	2,513
Beef and veal, total b/ .....	Lb.	2,721	3,023	5,573	761	9,523	1,491	2,226	8,527
Pork, total b/ .....	Lb.	3,642	4,499	7,874	1,143	9,101	2,226	10,847	18,257
Lard, including shortenings (animal) .....	Lb.	35,728	40,989	65,345	5,504	83,238	16,329	84,781	630
Tallow, edible and inedible .....	Lb.	108,903	119,782	207,315	9,246	230,471	22,662	691	6,239
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.) ...	Bale:	63	440	124	65,416	580	691	1,531	2,545
Apples, fresh .....	Lb.	2,897	3,239	7,630	255	8,009	7,026	865	1,315
Oranges and tangerines .....	Lb.	46,693	53,771	137,286	2,938	112,087	6,936	2,780	3,430
Prunes, dried .....	Lb.	2,141	2,636	5,367	458	8,645	21,510	32,106	20,095
Raisins and currants .....	Lb.	6,783	7,694	12,562	1,101	19,136	16,344	13,773	31,271
Fruits, canned * .....	Lb.	32,771	31,559	43,226	4,749	44,700	75,578	13,884	14,588
Fruit juices * .....	Gal.	995	976	2,123	1,457	2,287	2,548	21,680	12,157
Barley, grain (48 lb.) .....	Bu.	11,854	6,420	20,507	7,686	15,092	15,879	58,016	7,912
Corn, grain (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	7,990	5,859	19,678	9,399	12,400	3,427	484	2,308
Grain sorghums (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	7,665	7,973	16,059	9,075	12,054	2,352	2,308	2,111
Rice, milled, excludes paddy .....	Lb.	41,890	278,300	177,690	18,510	448,902	126,405	14,108	20,848
Wheat, grain (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	21,227	39,326	44,603	64,897	76,465	13,884	21,680	12,157
Flour, wholly of U. S. wheat (100 lb.) ....	Bag	1,597	1,782	3,190	7,279	3,386	75,578	14,108	20,848
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	3,498	1,445	7,934	3,920	5,154	2,548	21,680	12,157
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	9,747	74,617	15,943	12,299	132,438	15,879	58,016	7,912
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	25,169	22,441	100,278	3,870	73,160	3,427	484	2,308
Tobacco, flue-cured .....	Lb.	41,375	30,171	84,903	20,108	46,662	8,430	2,721	3,427
Tobacco, leaf, other * .....	Lb.	5,907	5,480	12,162	3,679	11,534	315	927	2,308
Beans, dried .....	Lb.	14,979	22,615	32,962	1,264	63,412	7,122	2,352	2,111
Peas, dried (incl. coupeas and chickpeas) .	Lb.	1,900	5,413	3,606	368	7,122	14,506	24,611	110,635
Potatoes, white .....	Lb.	20,406	7,321	44,688	230	44,920	95,501	611,603	2,484,317
Vegetables, canned .....	Lb.	4,788	5,918	16,175	866	12,765	14,506	24,611	110,635
Food exported for relief, etc. ....									
Other agricultural commodities .....									
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL .....									
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES .....									
a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight.									

\* Composition of these groups includes only those classes which are separately classified in the Bureau of Census 1956 reporting schedule G.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.



**IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION):** August 1955 and 1956 and July-August 1955 and 1956 a/

Commodity imported	Unit:	August			July-August		
		Quantity		Value	Quantity		Value
		1955	1956	1955	1955	1956	1956
SUPPLEMENTARY							
Cattle, dutiable	No.	3	4	507	Thousands	Thousands	dollars
Cheese	Lb.	3,567	3,903	1,834	6,097	7,070	1,194
Hides and skins	Lb.	11,519	14,353	4,674	23,733	25,571	3,645
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	14,072	15,192	4,428	26,143	25,112	10,916
Pork, total b/	Lb.	13,750	11,363	9,082	29,307	23,989	6,900
Wool, unmd., excl. free, etc.	Lb.	14,427	11,309	12,146	28,410	22,757	16,658
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintners (480 lb.)	Bale	7	4	1,523	17	6	19,820
Jute and jute butts, unmd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	3	3	755	6	7	1,187
Olives in brine	Gal.	1,146	744	1,860	1,979	1,675	1,365
Pineapples, canned, prepared or preserved	Lb.	11,942	10,084	1,356	24,522	20,000	3,118
Pineapple juice	Gal.	362	716	138	1,038	1,044	2,398
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	127	2,109	177	624	5,286	384
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Bu.	117	2,149	117	705	2,272	7,082
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	282	284	473	660	572	1,908
Feeds and fodders	s/	s/	s/	725	s/	572	907
Nuts and preparations	s/	s/	s/	4,610	s/	s/	2,048
Copra	Lb.	50,198	54,949	3,280	106,429	99,648	10,249
Oils, fats, waxes, vegetable expressed	Lb.	34,962	45,240	5,223	73,039	90,863	6,325
Seeds, field and garden	s/	s/	s/	1,394	s/	s/	13,974
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Ton	393	435	42,373	769	840	1,902
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	18,696	19,993	1,672	48,891	45,913	89,015
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	7,557	8,207	5,125	13,670	15,800	4,579
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	1,308	1,221	1,876	2,686	2,278	11,462
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	1,585	1,125	94	2,261	1,618	3,385
Other supplementary	Lb.			22,100	2,261	40,107	110
Total supplementary				127,542	138,827	254,394	49,407
COMPLEMENTARY							
Silk, raw	Lb.	695	708	2,914	950	1,207	5,083
Wool, unmd., free in bond	Lb.	19,115	15,242	11,525	37,113	29,169	17,626
Bananas	Bunch	4,032	3,624	5,663	7,898	7,425	11,053
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	186,960	190,830	94,070	391,186	464,206	240,259
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	47,201	33,413	15,758	73,261	79,445	18,955
Tea	Lb.	8,633	7,560	3,787	16,123	15,123	7,007
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	8,016	7,380	2,437	16,141	14,995	5,563
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	10	9	1,544	21	17	2,737
Rubber, crude	Lb.	134,041	90,421	39,854	231,763	182,698	47,686
Other complementary				9,195	8,647	17,219	16,373
Total complementary				187,558	164,349	360,366	372,342
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES							
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES							
				315,100	303,176	614,760	642,280
				960,417	1,041,390	1,839,219	2,086,334

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight. c/ Reported in value only.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.



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# FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES

# Digest

APR 5 1957

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## NOVEMBER 1956

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

### EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

July-October exports this year are estimated at 36 percent ahead of last year. The estimated 4-month value of \$1,400 million this year compares with the actual shipment value of \$1,031 million last year. With the exception of tobacco, all major commodity groups registered gains. Largest was in cotton exports. Grains and feeds were up as a group, but increases in food grains were partly offset by declines in feed grains. Shipments of vegetable oils and oilseeds, despite reductions in some items, expanded chiefly as the result of the continued rise of soybean oil shipments. The decline in tobacco was expected in the light of last year's extraordinary export volume.

October export gain this year is estimated about 50 percent over last. Month's export value totaled \$430 million based on estimates obtained from trade and Government sources. The October estimate compares with the actual shipment value of \$289 million in October 1955 and of \$366 million in September 1956. Agricultural exports have been running above a year earlier since March 1956. Main commodities in the October increase this year over last were cotton, wheat, rice, and soybean oil.

#### Fiscal Year Agricultural Exports

Commodity	: July-October	:	\$
	: 1954-55	:	1955-56: chg.
	: \$ million :		
Cotton.....	80	:	260 :+225
Grains and feeds....	349	:	485 :+ 39
Tobacco.....	183	:	140 :- 23
Veg. oils, oilseeds..	105	:	135 :+ 29
Fruits and vgs. ....	100	:	120 :+ 20
Livestock products..	158	:	180 :+ 14
Private relief 1/...	32	:	45 :+ 41
Other.....	24	:	35 :+ 46
Total.....	1,031	:	1,400 :+ 36

1/ Mostly CCC donations to U. S. private welfare agencies for overseas needy.

Demand abroad continuing to stimulate exports. World agricultural consumption has shown continued growth. Boom conditions nearly everywhere have provided consumers with purchasing power for greater varieties and quantities of agricultural commodities. The United States has shared in the improved opportunities to market more commodities. In recent years, U. S. exports have run about one-sixth of world exports of the kinds of commodities produced in this country.



Exports also being stimulated by Government programs. Shipment data for the July-September quarter are available only for Public Law 480 programs. All programs under this law totaled 35 percent of the July-September export value: Foreign currency sales, 16 percent; barter, 13 percent; welfare donations through private agencies,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  percent; and emergency relief grants,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  percent. The comparable figure for all of fiscal year 1955-56 was 29 percent.

#### COTTON

Foreign countries rebuilding cotton stocks. October cotton exports are estimated by FAS at over 600 thousand 480-pound bales this year compared with actual shipments of 202 thousand bales last year. For July-October, this year's total approximated 1,750 thousand bales, nearly 4 times last year's 449 thousand bales. CCC's sales program has made much cotton available for export: by November 13 sales at competitive prices under the 1956-57 program were equivalent to more than 5.7 million 480-pound bales. Export unit values have dropped almost 15 percent under the levels of a year ago. Foreign customers have been eager to take cotton under the U. S. sales program to rebuild stocks and to meet increasing consumption.

#### TOBACCO

Larger stocks abroad lessening need for U. S. leaf this year. With October tobacco exports estimated at 20 million pounds less this year than last, July-October total approximated 205 million pounds this year, 24 percent less than the 269 million pounds last year. A large part of last year's unusually heavy export volume was used to build up foreign stocks. Prices of traditionally medium-priced grades of tobacco sought by some countries have advanced in the last year or two because of greater demand for these grades for domestic use.

#### GRAINS

Unfavorable European crops last winter expanding U. S. wheat exports this year. October wheat and wheat flour exports are estimated from USDA inspections at 42 million bushels this year, about four times the 11 million bushels exported a year earlier. For July-October, exports are estimated at 160 million bushels this year, double the 81 million bushels exported last year. Improvement is associated with last winter's unfavorable crops in Europe, notably in France and the Low Countries; foreign millers now need more milling quality wheat suitable for blending with indigenous output. Extent of damage is indicated by situation in France; that country is now on net import basis in contrast with the 1955 season when she exported about 100 million bushels.

Export demand for U. S. feed grains reduced by improved world supplies. Feed grain shipments in October continued to run under the levels of a year earlier according to USDA inspections. For July-October, feed grain shipments, excluding products, are estimated at 2.2 million short tons this year, 24 percent less than actual shipments of 2.9 million tons last year. European import demand for feed grains has been reduced by the large quantities of low-quality wheat available in a number of European countries



# TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

November 28, 1956

Outlook for U. S. agricultural exports in fiscal year 1956-57--as reported at the 34th Annual Outlook Conference in Washington, D. C., on Monday--is extremely promising.

It now appears that the quantity of agricultural exports will gain by about one-fourth over last year although ocean shipping could become a problem. This would mark the fourth continuous year of improvement and would set a new export record, well surpassing the previous highs of 1918-19 and 1951-52. Export value should be at least \$4.2 billion, or about 20 percent above last year, and also an alltime record.

The most substantial factors favoring further growth in U. S. exports include abundant supplies, expanded Government export programs, and lower export prices in this country; and the current prosperity, increasing population, and slackening in agricultural expansion abroad.

With the international situation very much in the headlines, interest is high in its possible effects on U. S. agricultural exports. Agricultural shipments through the Suez Canal were summarized this month in FAS's circular FATP 36-56. The facts as they bear on agricultural exports are these:

- ...15 percent of the cargo moved through the Canal in 1955 consisted of agricultural commodities (64 percent was petroleum).
- ...The Canal is a major route for world trade in numerous tropical products, especially rubber, jute, wool, and vegetable oils and oilseeds.
- ...2/3 of the agricultural traffic through the Canal was to or from Europe; only 10 percent to or from the United States.
- ...Traffic moving northward to Europe involved about 4 million metric tons of products of the kinds the United States produces. Almost 2 million metric tons were grains and grain products.

It is difficult to appraise the significance of these facts on U. S. agricultural exports. However, past experience in times of crisis has been that Europe increased its agricultural imports from the United States to build stocks as a hedge against possible future shortages. This happened in 1951-52 when the Korean War developed. But as international tension decreased, these stocks were liquidated and U. S. exports fell.

The present situation finds stocks in Europe at fairly low levels; hence, if the tension is not quickly eased, there may be some temporary increase in U. S. agricultural exports beyond the quantity indicated above due to stockpiling and possibly, to a limited extent, to direct substitution for a part of what Europe in the past received through the Canal.

Export outlook by commodity for this fiscal year against last is brighter for food grains, cotton, fats and oils, livestock and meat products, eggs and poultry, fruits and vegetables; less bright for feed grains, tobacco, dairy products:

- ...Food grains: Outlook optimistic. Wheat exports to exceed 400 million bushels. Factors: Increased import requirements in most European countries because of smaller crops and lowered milling quality. U. S. rice exports to double last year's 1.1 billion pounds; world exportable supplies less. Considerable quantities of food grains expected under Government programs.
- ...Feed grains: Exports to be high--better than in fiscal year 1954-55--but under last year's record. Important factors: Rather heavy supplies of low quality wheat in Europe, unprecedented barley crop in France, big supply of barley and oats in Canada, and prospects for more corn for export in Argentina.
- ...Cotton: Exports expected to be highest in 23 years. Current outlook for 6.5 million bales--three times 1955-56 export. United States now selling cotton at competitive prices. Foreign countries buying heavily to rebuild inventories and to meet increasing consumption. Less cotton for export in other exporting countries this year.
- ...Tobacco: Exports probably around 500 million pounds this year compared with 578 million last year. Main factors in drop: Higher prices for certain traditional export grades, higher proportions of some leaf not suitable for sale abroad, larger stocks in a number of major importing countries, and increased supplies in competing exporting countries.
- ...Fats and oils: Foreign demand still strong. Export expectations: soybeans to gain over last year's record; cottonseed and soybean oils to approximate last year's level; animal fats to decline moderately due to smaller U. S. output; flaxseed and linseed oil to be largely priced out of the market.
- ...Livestock and meat products: Prospects favorable. U. S. prices competitive. Considerable exports of packinghouse products being financed by Government programs. Meat exports expected to be the largest since end of World War II.
- ...Dairy and poultry products: Outlook favorable. More eggs and poultry products to move. But milk equivalent of dairy exports to be down somewhat from average of past 2 years: less butter, more cheese, about the same quantity of milk.
- ...Fruits and vegetables: Increased opportunities in prospect for many fresh and processed fruits. Trade liberalizations helping. Also, short Spanish orange and Yugoslav prune crops; light Mediterranean almond crop.



and by the additional feed grain output expected from reseeding of large areas of damaged wheat acreage to barley and oats. Moreover, feed grain stocks in other major exporting countries are up, and a larger Canadian barley and oat production is expected.

Foreign surpluses mostly gone, more U. S. rice moving abroad. Rice shipments in October this year are estimated at double the volume shipped in October last year, and the July-October total approximated 900 million pounds this year, 89 percent ahead of the 477 million pounds exported last year. Public Law 480 foreign currency sales agreements with Indonesia, Pakistan, and India provide for the export of more than 1,500 million pounds this year. Rice surpluses in foreign exporting countries have been virtually worked off.

#### VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS

Strong foreign demand continuing for edible vegetable oils. Total exports of the two oils are estimated at 400 million pounds during the July-October period this year compared with actual shipments of 203 million a year earlier. These oils, together with soybeans and lard, make up the bulk of U. S. exports of food fats and oils, which except for butter are expected to total about the same in oil equivalent this fiscal year as the record last year. U. S. exportable supplies are substantial and export demand is expected to remain strong because of high levels of economic activity and consumer income abroad and relatively low stocks throughout the world.

Soybean exports behind last year's unusually high level. July-October U. S. soybean exports totaled about 16 million bushels this year compared with 21 million in the same period last year. Exports in the summer of 1955 were unusually large, reflecting CCC export sales of over 4 million bushels of beans from the 1954 crop. About 75 million bushels are expected to be exported in 1956-57 from the record 1956 crop (457 million bushels on November 1).

#### ANIMAL FATS

Heavy lard exports continuing. Despite a 10-million pound drop in October, July-October lard exports of 170 million pounds this year were 11 percent larger than the 153 million last year. Exports for the fiscal year as a whole are expected to reflect smaller output.

Plentiful supplies and competitive prices keep tallow exports high. Tallow shipments in October continued close to 100 million pounds. July-October total was 435 million pounds this year, 8 percent more than the 403 million last year. Exports have been heavy due to the high rate of livestock slaughter and competitive prices of tallow. In 1956-57, U. S. hog slaughter is expected to drop moderately while cattle slaughter will show little change; nevertheless, exports of tallow and greases for the fiscal year as a whole are expected to be well maintained because of strong foreign demand.

VEGETABLES

Big U. S. crop increasing bean exports. Quarterly total of 81 million pounds this year compared with 44 million last year. A big crop of Michigan pea beans this year has increased supplies available for export--mainly to Europe. Total for the year will depend on success of efforts to move this crop: expectations range from 200 to 250 million pounds. Large July-September exports were from the 1955 crop.

I M P O R T     H I G H L I G H T S

July-September imports 5 percent greater this year than last. Quarter's total was \$962 million this year compared with \$920 million last year. Most of the increase took place in complementary, or noncompetitive, products. Ten million dollars of the gain was in supplementary, or competitive, products.

Supplementary imports smaller in October. Supplementary imports totaled \$117 million in October this year, \$6 million less than a year earlier. Import value of cane sugar and barley, which chiefly accounted for earlier gains, continued notably larger, but substantial reductions occurred in meats, apparel wool, brined olives, copra, and vegetable oils.

October complementary imports 11 percent ahead. October total was \$203 million this year compared with \$183 million last year. Largest gain was in coffee value: \$42 million. However, there were partly offsetting declines in other imports, notably crude rubber.

Smaller coffee arrivals in October reflected decreased roastings. Arrivals of coffee in October were equivalent to about 190 million pounds this year compared with actual imports of 292 million pounds last year. October arrivals were substantially under the September import volume of 263 million pounds but were close to the August volume of 191 million pounds. July-October total is estimated at 915 million pounds this year compared with 834 million last year. Unit import values averaged 52 cents a pound this year and 50 cents last year based on July-September trade.

Whereas July-September imports were well above consumption requirements as importers stocked up against a possible waterfront strike, lower imports in October reflected a decline in roastings and high stock levels.

Cocoa bean supplies abundant, imports declining. Cocoa bean arrivals were 24 million pounds this October compared with 32 million last October. Imports have been running behind a year earlier since August. July-October imports are estimated at 130 million pounds this year compared with 142 million last year. Unit values for cocoa bean imports averaged 24 cents a pound this year compared with 33 cents last year based on July-September trade. Lower prices this year have reflected the general abundance of supplies. U. S. cocoa bean stocks are at very high levels.



DOMESTIC EXPORTS: September 1955 and 1956 and July-September 1955 and 1956 a/

Commodity exported	Unit:	September				July-September			
		Quantity		Value		Quantity		Value	
		1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
Cheese .....	Lb.	3,633	10,850	1,671	4,247	6,858	14,685	2,979	5,441
Milk, evaporated .....	Lb.	12,346	14,622	1,819	2,502	34,510	41,644	5,174	6,739
Milk, whole, dried .....	Lb.	2,871	3,820	1,445	1,846	11,360	10,448	5,586	5,132
Nonfat dry milk solids .....	Lb.	17,859	19,274	1,585	2,184	52,296	71,166	5,427	7,330
Eggs, in the shell .....	Doz.	5,601	3,503	2,044	1,283	15,223	10,699	5,728	4,172
Beef and veal, total b/ .....	Lb.	2,426	7,172	602	2,434	7,999	16,695	2,092	5,317
Pork, total b/ .....	Lb.	4,461	5,078	1,281	1,284	12,335	14,179	3,507	3,797
Lard, including shortenings (animal) .....	Lb.	30,817	38,147	3,872	5,082	96,162	121,384	12,399	15,930
Tallow, edible and inedible .....	Lb.	94,789	112,296	7,675	8,599	302,104	342,768	24,004	26,857
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.) ...	Bale	123	526	21,536	80,062	247	1,107	44,198	164,843
Apples, fresh .....	Lb.	5,499	6,235	518	541	13,130	14,245	1,209	1,171
Oranges and tangerines .....	Lb.	35,938	43,477	2,023	2,634	173,225	155,565	9,049	8,873
Prunes, dried .....	Lb.	4,019	11,611	682	1,943	9,361	20,256	1,547	3,474
Raisins and currants .....	Lb.	26,342	6,765	2,468	1,043	38,909	25,901	3,783	3,588
Fruits, canned * .....	Lb.	21,113	47,543	3,293	6,704	64,339	92,243	10,229	13,536
Fruit juices * .....	Gal.	689	778	1,112	1,240	2,812	3,065	3,892	4,670
Barley, grain (48 lb.) .....	Bu.	8,140	6,875	8,300	8,009	28,648	21,967	29,810	25,843
Corn, grain (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	11,214	6,257	15,915	9,994	30,892	18,657	48,021	30,089
Grain sorghums (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	6,648	3,913	6,658	4,644	22,706	15,967	23,002	18,417
Rice, milled, excludes paddy .....	Lb.	150,401	153,237	10,758	10,627	328,091	602,139	23,110	41,898
Wheat, grain (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	14,891	28,834	25,258	47,934	59,494	105,299	100,836	174,339
Flour, wholly of U. S. wheat (100 lb.) ....	Bag	1,305	2,210	5,668	9,233	4,495	5,595	19,776	23,117
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	3,977	2,751	9,718	6,790	11,910	7,905	30,566	21,378
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	2,075	75,713	312	11,143	18,018	208,151	2,860	32,823
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	50,192	30,878	7,573	3,867	150,470	104,037	23,452	16,023
Tobacco, flue-cured .....	Lb.	79,073	71,210	54,406	49,360	163,976	117,871	112,422	80,546
Tobacco, leaf, other * .....	Lb.	5,884	8,416	3,566	5,550	18,046	19,951	11,996	13,462
Beans, dried .....	Lb.	11,195	18,012	885	1,122	44,157	81,425	3,606	4,549
Peas, dried (incl. cowpeas and chickpeas) ..	Lb.	2,211	13,704	205	884	5,817	20,826	520	1,368
Potatoes, white .....	Lb.	45,068	28,227	941	852	89,756	73,147	1,868	3,160
Vegetables, canned * .....	Lb.	5,120	9,345	766	1,425	21,295	22,110	3,118	3,536
Food exported for relief, etc. ....				9,633	9,025			24,139	33,636
Other agricultural commodities .....				46,302	62,298			141,804	172,934
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL .....				260,490	366,385			741,709	977,988
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES .....				1,245,413	1,506,196			3,729,730	4,613,078

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight.

\* Composition of these groups includes only those classes which are separately classified in the Bureau of Census 1956 reporting Schedule G.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): September 1955 and 1956 and July-September 1955 and 1956 a/

Commodity imported	Unit:	September		Value		Quantity		July-September		Value	
		Quantity		1955		1956		1955		1956	
		1955	1956	Thousands	1,000 dollars	Thousands	1,000 dollars	Thousands	1,000 dollars	Thousands	1,000 dollars
SUPPLEMENTARY											
Cattle, dutiable	No.	2		3,174	5,589	6	395	11	15	1,704	1,876
Cheese	Lb.			7,075	7,252		1,667			4,835	6,650
Hides and skins	Lb.			12,244	7,816		3,012			12,680	14,055
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.			11,681	6,935		3,866			11,905	8,970
Pork, total b/	Lb.			11,320	7,345		7,900			27,200	21,244
Wool, unmd., excl. free, etc.	Lb.			24	22		11,457			34,857	26,541
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintners (480 lb.)	Bale:			2	22		3,841			7,549	4,395
Jute and jute butts, unmd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton:			2	1		417			1,937	1,579
Olives in brine	Gal.			1,223	468		2,047			5,316	3,865
Pineapples, canned, prepared or preserved	Lb.			2,935	5,763		367			3,121	3,135
Pineapple juice	Gal.			49	407		20			408	532
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.			396	2,721		494			1,367	10,930
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Bu.			86	237		87			713	2,140
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.			464	332		717			1,773	1,464
Feeds and fodders		c/	c/				879	c/	c/	2,433	2,690
Nuts and preparations		c/	c/				5,670	c/	c/	19,901	15,644
Copra	Lb.			84,027	53,047		5,423			12,279	9,593
Oils, fats, waxes, vegetable expressed	Lb.			36,554	26,167		5,787			16,164	18,461
Seeds, field and garden		c/	c/				1,516	c/	c/	3,560	2,631
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Ton:			307	357		32,656			115,337	126,477
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.			20,335	12,625		1,893			6,359	5,806
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.			7,296	6,817		5,018			14,275	16,261
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.			1,166	1,299		1,886			5,491	5,186
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.			271	0		16			152	110
Other supplementary							25,895			66,004	76,484
Total supplementary							122,926			377,320	386,719
COMPLEMENTARY											
Silk, raw	Lb.			876	507		3,822			7,824	7,173
Wool, unmd., free in bond	Lb.			15,944	13,059		9,502			31,862	25,303
Bananas	Bunch:			3,876	3,343		5,554			16,510	15,910
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.			195,037	263,093		96,725			293,171	379,541
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.			36,845	27,841		11,444			35,794	25,703
Tea	Lb.			8,695	9,605		4,429			11,585	11,641
Spices (complementary)	Lb.			6,627	8,177		2,535			8,690	8,522
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton			10	10		1,561			4,919	4,206
Rubber, crude	Lb.			114,596	96,261		38,175			106,538	73,347
Other complementary							8,934			26,155	23,538
Total complementary							182,681			543,048	574,884
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES							305,607			920,368	961,603
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES							950,782			2,790,001	3,082,025

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight. c/ Reported in value only.

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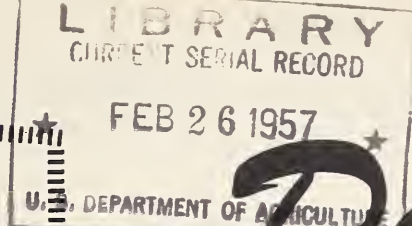
Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.



# FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE



OF THE UNITED STATES



## Digest

DECEMBER 1956

Issued monthly by Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Free within U. S. on request. Also available is the monthly Foreign Agricultural Trade Statistical Report, listing monthly and annual statistics on quantity and value of U. S. agricultural exports and imports, destinations, comparisons with previous year.

### EXPORT HIGHLIGHTS

July-November agricultural exports are estimated 36 percent ahead in value, 42 percent ahead in quantity in 1956 compared with 1955. The estimated 5-month value of \$1,800 million in 1956 compares with actual shipment value of \$1,328 million in 1955. Export quantity is estimated to have risen by 42 percent. Largest gain among major commodity groups was cotton. Other increases were in expressed vegetable oils and oilseeds, fruits and vegetables, and livestock products. Grains and feeds were up as a group, but increases in food grains were partly offset by declines in feed grains. Tobacco also declined. Smaller exports of tobacco and feed grains were expected in the light of last year's extraordinarily heavy shipments.

November 1956 exports were one-third larger in value, two-fifths larger in quantity. November's export value is estimated at \$395 million compared with \$297 million a year ago. Principal gains were in cotton, wheat, and rice. Exports have been running ahead of a year earlier every month since March. The November value, however, was 7 percent under October 1956's \$426 million. This drop from the previous month was contraseasonal and reflected the waterfront strike.

#### Fiscal Year Agricultural Exports

Commodity	: July-November : %		
	: 1955	: 1956	1/chg.
	\$ Million		
Cotton.....	106	345	:+225
Grains and feeds....	432	600	:+ 39
Tobacco leaf.....	226	175	:- 23
Veg. oils, oilseeds..	152	165	:+ 9
Fruits and vgs. ....	125	165	:+ 32
Livestock products...	207	240	:+ 16
Private relief 2/....	46	55	:+ 20
Other.....	34	55	:+ 62
Total.....	1,328	1,800	:+ 36

1/ Partly estimated. 2/ Mostly CCC donations to U. S. private welfare agencies for overseas needy.

Some November exports were delayed. Agricultural exports this fiscal year are now expected to total at least \$4.2 billion, based on the annual rate so far. When world trade is shaken by anything like the Suez crisis, the most immediate reaction is for Europe and Asia to get jittery about their imports. They start using finances and ocean shipping for essentials. The outcome in past emergencies has been that the United States shipped a larger volume of these essentials--cotton, grains, oils, etc. Thus far, U. S. farm exports

have not reflected the Suez crisis, one reason being the November waterfront strike which delayed shipments in the last third of the month; another, the tight ocean shipping supply.

Main factors in the export gain. These are the main factors underlying the much improved level of agricultural exports at this time:

- ...Abundant supplies. Despite heavy exports, the United States is still a dependable source of a wide range of products.
- ...Foreign prosperity. Foreign demand has been stimulated by the current prosperity and economic expansion of a number of countries.
- ...Government programs. Most important are CCC sales at competitive prices. Others are sales for foreign currencies, barter for strategic materials, and direct grants for foreign relief.
- ...Increasing population. For the world, nearly one-fourth above prewar.
- ...Foreign expansion of farm production is slackening. Postwar agricultural growth is barely keeping pace with population increase.
- ...Weather. As in the past, U. S. exports have been aided by unfavorable weather in certain areas: in 1956 European wheat and citrus were especially hard hit.

#### COTTON

Competitive pricing, international disturbances, help to swell cotton shipments. Cotton exports are estimated from trade sources at 600 thousand 480-pound bales this November compared with 145 thousand last November. July-November estimate is 2,328 thousand bales in 1956, 4 times exports a year earlier. Principal reasons for the sharp rebound in exports are competitive pricing of U. S. cotton, low stocks in nearly all foreign countries, rising consumption abroad, and a desire abroad to rebuild inventories as a hedge against prospective inflation derived from current disturbances in the Middle East and Eastern Europe.

#### TOBACCO

Tobacco exports continuing below last year's heavy volume. November exports of tobacco leaf are estimated at 45 million pounds in 1956 compared with 64 million in 1955. July-November estimate of 250 million pounds in 1956 compares with actual shipments of 332 million pounds in 1955. The decline from last year's extremely high level was expected in view of higher prices for certain traditional export grades, larger stocks in a number of major importing countries, and increased supplies in competing exporting countries. U. S. growers have been producing a higher proportion of certain qualities of flue-cured leaf that are not suitable for export.



# TRADE NEWS ROUNDUP

December 28, 1956

An example of how P.L. 480 export promotion works within the United States: An Italian wheat team visited our Midwest on a market development project partly financed from foreign currency sales. They saw the dark hard winter wheat (a subclass of hard red winter) that is produced in Nebraska, Kansas, and Oklahoma. Their reaction: They had not known that the United States grew such fine wheat; thought it might be suitable for some pasta manufacturing in Italy. The Italians were particularly impressed by the difference between this wheat and that received last year. Their conclusion was that they could use a substantial quantity. However, there is still the problem of moving such country-run wheat into export channels in large quantity.

An example of market development overseas: A new milk recombining plant is opening in Thailand using dried milk and butterfat from the United States. First production provided samples of milk and ice cream for the Bangkok International Trade Fair (December 7-22, 1956). Regular commercial production is now ready to start. FAS is furnishing P.L. 480, Section 104(a) Thai currency equivalent to \$144,000 to Dairy Society International for an educational campaign and samples to stimulate demand for recombined milk and other dairy products.

\* \* \*

A "shot in the arm" is being given to tobacco exports next season by USDA action announced on December 18. Price supports have been adjusted for the 1957 flue-cured crop to discourage production of the less desirable varieties (especially types 139, 140, and 244) and to encourage production of varieties having characteristics currently in demand. One factor in the current year's drop in flue-cured exports is the low flavor and aroma characteristics of much of the available leaf.

\* \* \*

INCREASING U. S. FARM EXPORTS, FAS' current annual pictorial book, is available from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., price 50 cents a copy. Report features 131 photoengraved charts and maps. Contents: The trend of agricultural exports--What exports mean to the farmer--The trade job--Where exports are going--Analyzing the world market--Regional patterns--Our best customers--The farm commodity picture.

\* \* \*

USDA on December 18 announced that 40 additional Government-owned vessels are being made available by the Federal Maritime Board. Purpose is to ease the shipping shortage that has delayed some agricultural exports. Title I bookings will be especially assisted by this move. Ships will be

used principally for wheat and other grains. They will be operated privately under bareboat charters. 30 vessels were previously made available on November 1, 1956.

\* \* \*

New Title I, P.L. 480 agreement: Pakistan; \$25.6 million, wheat and rice. Agreements with Pakistan now total over \$120 million.

Further easing of barriers against U. S. farm exports:

...Philippines: Smoked, dried, or salted beef not in cans; malted milk for infants.

...West Germany: Onions.

...Venezuela: Uncooked pork products.

...Bahamas: Florida vegetables.

Title I export tonnage July-October 1956 totaled over 1.7 million metric tons, 87 percent consisting of wheat, rice, and feed grains.

\* \* \*

Sales of CCC cotton under the competitive export pricing program are now tapering off: only 600 thousand bales remain immediately available for sale. While CCC is taking over 6 million bales of the 1955 crop on January 1, this cotton will not be in trading position until February or March. Total sales as of December 11, 1956 were 6.2 million bales.

U. S. exporters can expect less competition from Mexican cotton. Prospects for 1957 Mexico's production are the poorest in 3 or 4 years, according to USDA specialists who have surveyed that country's cotton-growing regions.

USDA has revised its Cotton Products Export Program to prohibit exportation or reexportation of any commodities to Macao, Hong Kong, the Soviet Bloc, or Communist-controlled areas of the Far East, including Communist China, North Korea, and Communist-controlled areas of Vietnam and Laos, except under license issued by the Bureau of Foreign Commerce of the Department of Commerce.

\* \* \*

Following investigation to determine effects of imports on domestic marketing, the Tariff Commission on December 16 reported to the President against imposition of restrictions on imports of dried figs or fig paste.

Tariff Commission hearings on January 15, 1957: To determine need for import controls on butter oil and butter substitutes containing 45 percent or more butterfat.



## GRAINS

Wheat exports double as foreign requirements expand. November exports of wheat and wheat flour are estimated at 37 million bushels, nearly twice the volume moved out a year earlier. July-November estimate of nearly 200 million bushels in 1956 is about double exports in 1955. In the same period, Canadian exports rose from 98 million to 138 million bushels, an increase of over 40 percent. Factors include increased import requirements in most European countries stemming from smaller crops and inferior milling quality as well as better buying ability of many importing countries, improving nutritional levels, and building up of reserves.

Feed grain exports are less now as foreign output recovers. July-November feed grain shipments (excluding products) are estimated at 2.8 million short tons in 1956 compared with 3.6 million in 1955. The reduction is occurring because of a decline in European demand resulting from heavy supplies of nonmillable wheat in 1956, increased European plantings of feed grains to replace winter-killed wheat, and an unprecedented exportable surplus of barley in France. Demand for cargo space for increased wheat requirements in Europe and the worldwide shipping situation are also limiting feed grain exports this season. Competition for export outlets is especially keen this year because of larger exportable supplies in other countries.

Rice exports soar as foreign exportable supplies dwindle. Indications are that over 1 billion pounds of milled rice moved out in the July-November period in 1956 compared with 587 million pounds a year earlier. Foreign supplies available for export are down this fiscal year. Virtually all carryover stocks in exporting countries are committed for export.

## VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS

Strong foreign demand continues for U. S. soybeans. July-November soybean exports are estimated at 29 million bushels in 1956 compared with 34 million in 1955. Despite the reduction, exports were at a relatively high level. Foreign demand is continuing strong and is likely to be intensified by disturbed international conditions. European receipts of soybeans from Manchuria have been affected by the Suez blockage.

Cottonseed and soybean oil exports now running more than four-fifths above a year ago--Spain an important factor. With November shipments estimated at 40 percent above a year earlier, July-November exports of soybean and cottonseed oil totaled 500 million pounds in 1956 compared with 268 million pounds in 1955, an increase of 87 percent. Much of this increase was due to larger shipments under Title I of Public Law 480. In the July-October period of this year, 50 percent of the shipments were under this Title. Spain was an important factor in the increased shipments: July-October exports to that country were 173 million pounds in 1956 compared with 48 million pounds in 1955, in both years more than half under Title I.

## ANIMAL FATS

Lard exports continuing heavy. With November lard exports estimated at one-fourth less in 1956 than in 1955, July-November shipments amounted to 220 million pounds in 1956, about the same as a year earlier. Exports have been maintained by the strong foreign demand. Some falling off in exports is anticipated because of the smaller domestic output this fiscal year.

Despite heavy November drop, July-November tallow shipments total ahead of a year ago. November 1956 tallow exports are estimated at 70 million pounds, about 30 million under October 1956 and 25 million under November 1955. Despite the drop in November, July-November shipments were ahead of a year ago: 510 million pounds in 1956 compared with 498 million in 1955. Competitive pricing and heavy slaughter rates have encouraged tallow exports.

## I M P O R T   H I G H L I G H T S

Large import decline occurred in October. October agricultural imports totaled \$228 million in 1956 compared with \$352 million in 1955. The October value was the lowest since November 1954. Imports of complementary (noncompetitive) agricultural products declined from \$232 million in October 1955 to \$175 million in October 1956. Most of the reduction was the result of much smaller coffee imports. Imports of supplementary (competitive) agricultural commodities declined from \$120 million in October 1955 to \$113 million in October 1956. Apparel wool, pork, sugar, and molasses figured prominently in the reduction.

July-October total ran behind 1956. With the October reduction, the cumulative total fell behind a year earlier. For the July-October period, agricultural imports totaled \$1,250 million in 1956 compared with \$1,273 million in 1955. Complementary imports fell from \$776 million to \$750 million, reflecting mainly smaller rubber, cocoa bean, and carpet wool imports that were only partly offset by increases in imports of coffee. The bulk of the rubber increase took place in August and September 1956. July-October supplementary agricultural imports totaled \$500 million in 1956 as against \$497 million in 1955. Major shifts were the increases in feed grains, expressed vegetable oils, and cane sugar; decreases in meats, apparel wool, and cotton.

Industrial imports were well above a year ago in the July-October period. While agricultural imports declined 2 percent in the July-October period of 1956 compared with the like period of 1955, industrial imports rose by 17 percent. The gain was from \$2,529 million in July-October 1955 to \$2,963 million in July-October 1956.

Higher stocks resulted in less imports of coffee. Coffee arrivals in November are estimated at 170 million pounds in 1956 compared with 283 million in 1955. Coffee imports also declined by about 100 million pounds in October 1956 from October 1955. As a result, July-November imports in 1956 are estimated at less than in 1955: 1,100 million pounds compared with 1,162 million pounds. Having stocked up on coffee in anticipation of November's waterfront strike, importers eased off on their takings after September.



DOMESTIC EXPORTS: October 1955 and 1956 and July-October 1955 and 1956 a/

Commodity exported	Unit:	October				July-October			
		Quantity		Value		Quantity		Value	
		1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
		Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars	Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars
Cheese .....	Lb.	3,939	6,031	1,382	2,072	10,797	20,717	4,362	7,514
Milk, evaporated .....	Lb.	10,407	14,972	1,538	2,316	44,917	56,616	6,712	9,055
Milk, whole, dried .....	Lb.	3,988	2,692	2,012	1,403	15,348	13,140	7,598	6,535
Nonfat dry milk solids .....	Lb.	19,349	42,371	2,521	4,921	71,644	113,537	7,947	12,251
Eggs, in the shell .....	Doz.	6,392	4,435	2,372	1,622	21,616	15,133	8,100	5,794
Beef and veal, total b/ .....	Lb.	3,100	11,929	713	3,534	11,099	28,624	2,806	8,852
Pork, total b/ .....	Lb.	6,441	5,897	1,485	1,658	18,775	20,076	4,992	5,455
Lard, including shortenings (animal) .....	Lb.	56,705	47,003	7,563	6,450	152,867	168,387	19,962	22,379
Tallow, edible and inedible .....	Lb.	100,349	99,213	8,374	7,593	402,453	441,981	32,378	34,450
Cotton, unmd., excl. linters (480 lb.) ...	Bale:	202	621	35,412	91,691	449	1,728	79,610	256,534
Apples, fresh .....	Lb.	6,553	10,201	613	904	19,683	24,445	1,822	2,075
Oranges and tangerines .....	Lb.	29,082	38,212	1,620	2,348	202,306	193,777	10,670	11,220
Prunes, dried .....	Lb.	13,709	29,594	2,637	4,694	23,070	49,850	4,183	8,167
Raisins and currants .....	Lb.	16,031	9,788	1,795	1,425	54,939	35,689	5,578	5,013
Fruits, canned * .....	Lb.	23,198	40,780	3,742	5,785	87,537	133,023	13,971	19,321
Fruit juices * .....	Gal.	575	902	1,083	1,456	3,387	3,966	4,976	6,126
Barley, grain (48 lb.) .....	Bu.	9,234	5,907	9,389	6,828	37,881	27,874	39,199	32,671
Corn, grain (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	11,239	11,242	15,828	16,792	42,131	29,899	63,849	46,881
Grain sorghums (56 lb.) .....	Bu.	3,150	2,812	3,484	3,674	25,856	18,780	26,486	22,091
Rice, milled, excludes paddy .....	Lb.	148,938	243,600	9,570	16,805	477,029	845,739	32,679	58,703
Wheat, grain (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	7,153	36,212	11,394	59,674	66,647	141,511	112,230	234,013
Flour, wholly of U. S. wheat (100 lb.) ...	Bag	1,828	2,493	7,897	10,637	6,323	8,089	27,673	33,754
Soybeans, except canned (60 lb.) .....	Bu.	8,827	10,243	21,485	25,450	20,738	18,148	52,051	46,828
Soybean oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	12,060	82,167	1,760	12,228	30,078	290,318	4,620	45,051
Cottonseed oil, crude, refined, etc. ....	Lb.	22,210	13,033	3,486	1,760	172,680	117,070	26,938	17,784
Tobacco, flue-cured .....	Lb.	78,780	62,549	54,121	42,675	242,756	180,421	166,543	123,221
Tobacco, leaf, other * .....	Lb.	6,155	6,935	3,808	4,435	24,201	26,886	15,804	17,897
Beans, dried .....	Lb.	18,872	26,423	1,414	1,910	63,029	107,847	5,020	6,459
Peas, dried (incl. cowpeas and chickpeas) .	Lb.	7,028	21,279	612	1,370	12,845	42,105	1,132	2,738
Potatoes, white .....	Lb.	69,169	35,019	793	1,030	158,925	108,167	2,661	4,190
Vegetables, canned * .....	Lb.	9,356	18,435	1,372	2,486	30,651	40,545	4,490	6,022
Food exported for relief, etc. ....				7,955	10,352			32,094	43,988
Other agricultural commodities .....				59,864	68,420			201,666	241,354
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL .....				289,094	426,398			1,030,802	1,404,386
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES .....				1,385,507	1,643,610			5,115,237	6,256,687

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight.

\* Composition of these groups includes only those classes which are separately classified in the Bureau of Census 1956 reporting Schedule G.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

IMPORTS (FOR CONSUMPTION): October 1955 and 1956 and July-October 1955 and 1956 a/

Commodity imported	Unit:	October		Value		July-October		Value	
		Quantity	1956	1955	dollars	Quantity	1956	1955	dollars
SUPPLEMENTARY									
Cattle, dutiable	No.	9	15	687	1,189	29	2,391	1,000	3,065
Cheese	Lb.	5,508	5,609	2,897	3,083	14,778	18,269	7,732	9,733
Hides and skins	Lb.	11,400	9,385	4,689	4,181	42,208	42,208	17,369	18,236
Beef and veal, total b/	Lb.	9,428	9,486	2,799	2,330	47,814	42,414	14,703	11,300
Pork, total b/	Lb.	11,583	8,436	7,881	5,658	52,571	39,360	35,082	26,901
Wool, unmd., excl. free, etc.	Lb.	12,161	7,916	10,970	6,925	51,891	38,018	45,827	33,467
Cotton, unmd., excl. lintens (480 lb.)	Bale:	11	2	1,779	313	52	29	9,328	4,708
Jute and jute butts, unmd. (2,240 lb.)	Ton	1	1	241	214	9	9	2,178	1,793
Olives in brine	Gal.	877	442	1,510	813	4,079	2,586	6,826	4,678
Pineapples, canned, prepared or preserved	Lb.	4,496	5,191	567	667	31,953	30,954	3,688	3,801
Pineapple juice	Gal.	143	430	56	156	1,230	1,880	464	688
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	4,321	3,901	5,679	5,206	5,341	11,908	7,046	16,136
Oats, grain (32 lb.)	Bu.	145	180	166	172	936	2,689	879	2,312
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	541	362	819	550	1,665	1,265	2,592	2,013
Feeds and fodders	Bu.	5/	5/	910	997	5/	5/	3,344	3,685
Nuts and preparations	Bu.	5/	5/	6,131	6,622	5/	5/	26,032	22,645
Copra	Lb.	54,671	62,530	3,369	3,919	245,127	215,225	15,649	13,512
Oils, fats, waxes, vegetable expressed	Lb.	24,686	38,690	3,817	6,071	134,279	155,721	19,980	24,533
Seeds, field and garden	Lb.	5/	5/	2,358	1,390	5/	5/	5,918	4,021
Sugar, cane (2,000 lb.)	Ton	276	252	28,744	26,694	1,352	1,448	144,081	153,170
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	27,311	8,707	2,519	894	96,536	67,245	8,878	6,700
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	7,573	8,546	5,183	6,072	28,539	31,163	19,458	22,333
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	1,139	1,096	1,701	1,792	4,991	4,673	7,191	6,979
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	410	56	23	4	2,942	1,674	174	113
Other supplementary	Lb.			24,472	27,540			90,478	103,649
Total supplementary				119,967	113,452			497,288	500,171
COMPLEMENTARY									
Silk, raw	Lb.	750	805	3,303	3,331	2,576	2,519	11,127	10,503
Wool, unmd., free in bond	Lb.	17,371	17,736	10,552	10,402	70,428	59,964	42,414	35,705
Bananas	Bunch:	3,787	3,690	5,532	5,428	15,561	14,458	22,043	21,337
Coffee (incl. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	292,368	193,446	146,813	98,906	878,591	920,745	439,983	448,447
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	33,014	26,533	9,869	6,414	143,120	133,818	45,663	32,117
Tea	Lb.	8,047	7,696	4,166	3,941	32,865	32,424	15,751	15,582
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	3,880	8,198	1,726	2,469	26,648	31,370	10,416	10,991
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	12	10	1,958	1,366	43	37	6,877	5,573
Rubber, crude	Lb.	104,554	117,908	39,120	32,835	450,913	396,867	145,658	106,182
Other complementary				9,428	9,640			35,582	63,179
Total complementary				232,467	174,732			775,514	749,616
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES				352,434	288,184			1,272,802	1,249,787
TOTAL ALL COMMODITIES				1,012,225	1,130,540			3,802,226	4,212,565

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight. c/ Reported in value only.

a/ Preliminary. b/ Product weight. 5/ Reported in value only.